

THE
HISTORICAL
COLLECTIONS

OF THE
TOPSFIELD
HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

VOL. I.

1895.

TOPSFIELD, MASS.:
Published by the Society.
1895.



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Topsfield Historical Society.

Officers for the year 1895.

President,

JUSTIN ALLEN, M.D.

Vice-President,

CHARLES J. PEABODY.

Secretary,

GEO. FRIS. DOW.

Treasurer,

GEO. FRIS. DOW.

Curator,

GEO. FRIS. DOW.

Executive Committee:

JUSTIN ALLEN, M.D., *ex-officio*.

CHARLES J. PEABODY, *ex-officio*.

GEO. FRIS. DOW, *ex-officio*.

JOSEPH B. POOR,

WELLINGTON DONALDSON.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Adopted, December 14, 1894.

ARTICLE I.

This organization shall be known as The Topsfield Historical Society.

ARTICLE II.

Its object is the collection, preservation and study of all historical materials relating to the town of Topsfield, and it also shall be the purpose of the society to encourage the study of natural history in its various branches.

ARTICLE III.

The officers shall consist of a President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Curator, and an executive committee, five in number, of which the President, Vice-President and Secretary shall be *ex officio* members.

All officers shall be chosen by ballot at the annual meeting.

ARTICLE IV.

The Secretary shall give notice of all meetings and record their proceedings, and at the annual meeting shall make report of the doings of the Society for the preceding year.

He shall also acknowledge the receipt of all donations and preserve a record of the same.

ARTICLE V.

The Executive Committee shall have general charge of the Society, and it shall be their duty to select suitable subjects for discussion at each meeting and arrange for the preparation of papers or addresses on the same.

ARTICLE VI.

All persons interested in the objects of this Society are eligible for membership.

ARTICLE VII.

Any person may be elected a member at a regular meeting by a majority vote of the members present and voting, the name of such person having been proposed in writing by two members at a previous meeting.

ARTICLE VIII.

An annual fee of fifty cents shall be paid in advance by every member.

ARTICLE IX.

Regular meetings shall be held on the first Friday of every month, excepting June, July and August, and the meeting held in January shall be the annual meeting for the hearing of all reports and election of officers for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE X.

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a three-fourths vote of the members present, notice thereof having been given at a preceding meeting.

LIST OF MEMBERSHIP

JANUARY 3, 1896.

Adams, Lizzie A.	Johnson, Arthur
Allen, Justin, M.D.	Johnson, Mrs. Nettie
Averill, Charles	Lake, Alice
Balch, Benjamin J.	Lake, Otto E.
Balch, Mrs. Caroline P.	Lamson, J. Arthur
Balch, Franklin	Lamson, Mrs. Hattie
Barnard, Charles N.	Leach, Charles H.
Bradstreet, Gertrude	Leach, Mrs. Mary A.
Bradstreet, Metta	Leach, Mrs. Louisa
Bradstreet, Sarah R.	Long, Ira P.
Blaisdell, J. Albert	Nichols, Mrs. Mary L.
Blaisdell, Mrs. Annie	Peabody, Charles J.
Chandler, James H.	Peabody, Mrs. Annie
Chandler, Mrs. Carrie	Peabody, Bessie
Clark, Marietta	Perkins, Clara E.
Conant, Albert A.	Perkins, Harris E.
Cummings, Julia, Boxford	Perkins, Lyman A.
Dodge, Albert M.	Perley, Sidney, Salem
Dodge, Samuel P.	Peterson, Mrs. Cynthia W.
Donaldson, Wellington	Pierce, E. Nelson
Donaldson, Mrs. Lillian	Pike, Baxter P.
Dow, Geo. Frs.	Pike, Mrs. Sarah
Dwinell, Esther	Poole, Rev. Francis A.
Dwinell, Sarah	Poor, Joseph B.
Edwards, Benjamin P.	Poor, Mrs. Mary
Edwards, Mrs. Eveline	Poor, Lizzie A.
Edwards, Sarah S., Haverhill	Porter, Hattie S.
Field, Mrs. Emma J., Lynn	Potter, John H.
Fiske, Amos T.	Pray, Ruel B.
Fuller, Daniel	Pray, Mrs. Caroline
Fuller, Mrs. Francelia M.	Putnam, Eben, Salem
Fuller, Calvin W.	Rust, Forrest W.
Fuller, Mrs. Harriett	Sturgis, Mrs. Annie, Ipswich
Gleason, Annie, Haverhill	Todd, Ada
Glover, Mrs. Gertrude, Ipswich	Todd, Hattie
Gould, Mrs. Abbie J.	Todd, Mehitabel
Gould, George L., Malden	Towne, Mrs. Abbie W.
Gould, Mary E.	Towne, John H.
Gould, W. Pitman	Towne, Rosa H.
Gould, Mrs. Mettie	Towne, S. Josephine
Haven, Mrs. Susan	Trowbridge, Charles I.
Hodges, Mary Osgood	Trowbridge, Mrs. Fanny
Hood, Salmon D.	Webster, Albert
Hutchings, Arthur W.	Welch, Mrs. Ellen H.
Hutchings, Mrs. Emma	Welch, Leone P.
Hutchings, Mrs. Esther W.	Woodbury, Mrs. Sarah

SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To present the first annual report of a Historical Society is an honor but few have had the opportunity of embracing, and in the present instance I particularly esteem it, because of the great and growing success of our Society. which from a humble beginning has gradually gained in membership and influence until it has become a factor in the life of the town.

My connection with the Society has been a source of much pleasure, and the custom of regularly holding our meetings in this house has in part, I think, added to their interest, the social feature naturally proving attractive, so that it gives me great pleasure to again extend to you an invitation to hold here the future meetings of our Society.

In reviewing the work accomplished during the past year, perhaps the two more prominent features are the printing of historical collections and the gathering of a nucleus for a cabinet collection of relics and curiosities. Of the latter the number of objects is as yet not large, but, as a small room in the Town hall has been so kindly set aside for our use by the town authorities, it is hoped our funds may increase and during the coming year suitable cabinets may be obtained wherein our collection of historical relics may be properly displayed, safe from the curious handling of visitors. The expense will not be great and I would particularly call to your attention the needs of the Society in this respect with the

hope that some means can be devised for increasing our revenue with this end in view.

About the first of February our volume of Historical Collections will be ready for distribution. It will consist of about one hundred pages of text, with several illustrations. The executive committee have thought it best to distribute one copy to each member gratis and hold the remainder of the edition at a fixed price, hoping to derive a small revenue from their sale. While many other Societies, historical and philosophical, follow the practice of holding their reports or collections at a certain price irrespective of membership, your executive committee have thought best to make this distribution hoping by so doing to bind more closely the membership tie and place in the hands of each associate, whether a resident of Topsfield or living in some distant city, yet alike interested in our work, some tangible evidence of their affiliation with our Society.

There have been ten meetings of the society held during the past year. Papers have been prepared and read by the following members: Mrs. T. K. Leach, Mrs. Haven, Mrs. G. Warren Towne, Miss Metta Bradstreet, Miss Ada Todd, Miss Esther Dwinell, Miss Hattie Todd, Miss Bessie Peabody, Justin Allen, M. D., Benj. J. Balch, John H. Towne, W. Donaldson, C. J. Peabody, J. H. Potter, A. M. Dodge and your secretary, and several of the papers so prepared

have been printed in the collection.

Sidney Perley, Esq., of Salem, was present at the first meeting of the society and spoke on organized historical work. At the March meeting Hon. Robert S. Rantoul of Salem was present and read an interesting paper on "The Era of the Stage Coach." June 19 a field meeting was held at the agricultural farm and notwithstanding severe showers a good number was present. Papers were read by Mrs. Abbie W. Towne, Benj. J. Balch, Charles J. Peabody and your secretary. Several points of historical interest were visited, the company finally reaching the house of George F. Averill, who very hospitably threw open his doors and entertained the society royally.

On Sept. 20 a well attended public meeting was held at the Town hall when Ezra Hines, Esq., of Danvers delivered an address on the "Meaning and Value of Historical Societies" and also described his search for the portraits of the Browne family, the builders of the Folly hill mansion in Danvers. Charles J. Peabody also read a biographical sketch on Dr. Nehemiah Cleaveland. At the December meeting Rev. A. P. Putnam, president of the Danvers Historical Society, was present and delivered a lecture on "Our Historical Societies."

The donations to the cabinet number 22, and to the library 15. These will be properly acknowledged in the introductory pages of the historical collections.

John Hood Gould, an honorary member, died Feb. 11, 1895, and in his death the society meets with a great loss.

The membership at the present time is ninety-four and in this connection I would call your attention to the fact that every additional membership fee, small as it may seem, aids the society in its work and broadens the range of its usefulness. We need a larger membership. We should find inscribed on our rolls many interested in our work, though non-residents of Topsfield. The value of the historical collections might be held up as an inducement toward an increased membership, but in any case let each member propose one new name during the coming year and by so doing double our roll.

I would suggest that the office of curator be separated from that of secretary and an organized effort be made toward the accumulation of large additions to our cabinet collections. In many an old attic in town lie buried valuable relics of a by-gone day, and with the acquisition of closed cabinets each member should take particular pride in preserving for the society these various objects, and in time would result a collection that fittingly might represent the historic life of our town from the earliest times.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. FRIS. DOW,
Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

For the year ending Dec. 31st, 1895.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURES.	
Annual dues	\$43.00	Printing historical col.	\$16.50
Geo. L. Gould, donation	2.00	Printing, typewriting, etc.	5.40
		Postal cards	10.70
		Record books	1.50
		Warren Blues' equipments	7.00
		Rent Town hall	2.50
		Lecturer's expenses	1.10
	<hr/> \$45.00		<hr/>
		Balance on hand	\$44.70
			.30

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. FRs. DOW,
Treasurer.

Donations for year ending Jan. 3, 1896.

CABINET.

Cummings, Miss Julia A., Boxford—
Arrow head.

Dodge, Albert M.—Cabinet case and
collection of birds' eggs number-
ing 116 varieties.

Dow, Eugene M.—Battered silver
spoon found on Price's Hill,
monogram B. B. H.

Dow, Geo. Frs.—Spinning wheel;
piece of live oak keel of H. M.
S. Somerset, wrecked on Cape
Cod in 1779; two Indian arrow
heads; stone implement used for
sharpening Indian tools; badge.
Mass. Society Sons of Ameri-
can Revolution; badge, Essex
Co. Rep. Convention, Salem,

Aug. 24, 1887; badge, 25th
Natl. Encampment G. A. R.,
Detroit, Mich., 1891; framed
portrait of Abraham Lincoln.

Gould, John H.—Hair trunk former-
ly the property of Jacob Towne;
ivory headed cane formerly the
property of Jacob Towne; green
silk umbrella formerly the prop-
erty of Jacob P. Towne.

Hutchings, Mrs. Esther W.—Feather
plume worn by Jeremiah Stone,
M. D., when surgeon of the
Topsfield Warren Blues in 1836.

Johnson, Mrs. Arthur—Brass bar-
relled pistol picked up on the
battlefield of Stonington, Conn.

Kimball, Paul R.—Banner of the

- Topsfield Fremont and Dayton Club, 1856.
- Pray, Reuel B.—Deck-light from U. S. S. S. Mendota; gavel turned from the oaken frame of the old Israel Gallup house; piece of core boring from the largest gun in the U. S. navy, from Washington Navy Yard, 1892.
- Stevens, Albert W.—Pieces of clay pipes from a chimney foundation in an old cellar near Crooked Pond in Boxford; (see Perley's dwellings of Boxford, page 136); two ancient iron peat forks; piece of chestnut wood excavated from the pit of the Topsfield copper mine in 1840, having been buried at the working of the mine in 1771.
- Webster, Albert—Indian stone axe.
- Welch, Mrs. Ellen H.—Wooden tablet inscribed with the date 1759, formerly fastened to the front of the gallery in the old meeting-house.
- LIBRARY.
- Averell, Sidney W.—Account book and ledger of David Hobbs, 1774-94, 72 pages.
- Chandler, James H.—Newspaper, extra number of Meriden, Conn., Republican, Aug. 20, 1881, containing account of life and death of President James A. Garfield.
- Davis, Andrew McF.. Cambridge—Historical work in Mass. pamph. 1893, 55 pp.
- Edwards, Benj. P.—Three shares stock of Eastern stage company.
- Haven, Mrs. Theodore W.—Newspaper, Salem Gazette, Mar. 28, 1800; certificate of stock in Topsfield Agricultural Library, March 24, 1860; newspaper, Columbian Centinel, Dec. 22, 1810; tax collector's warrant, 1773; receipt for Revolutionary service July 11, 1776, Andrew Gould.
- Johnson, Mrs. Arthur—Universal Geography by Rev. Elijah Parish, Newburyport, 1808, 214 pp.
- Lake, Henry W.—Newspaper, Newburyport Herald, Nov. 17, 1834, containing account of political celebration in Topsfield.
- Perley, Sidney, Salem—Newspapers. Salem Gazette Sept. 30, 1774 and Oct 7, 1774.
- Poor, Joseph B.—History of the emblem of the codfish in the Hall of the House of Representatives, Boston, 1895, 62 pp.
- Welch, Mrs. Ellen H.—Catalogues of Topsfield Academy for 1840, 1855, 1856.

GEO. FRIS. DOW,
Curator.



INTRODUCTORY REMARKS AT THE FIRST REGULAR MEETING OF THE TOPSFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
JAN 4, 1895, BY THE PRESIDENT, JUSTIN
ALLEN, M. D.

It seems proper on an occasion like this, when a newly organized Historical society is about to enter upon its appropriate work, that it should glance over the field to be occupied and touch upon some of the points that will more particularly engage its attention.

The history of the town and of events having relation near or more remote to the town history will afford an ample field for our study and investigation.

We need not be content with commencing our studies with the first settlement of the town by Europeans. These hills and valleys were previously inhabited by other races than our own, who have left traces of their occupancy. A very few of the race that inhabited this region were found in eastern Massachusetts when the first European emigrants arrived. The previous generations that occupied this locality have left a meagre history in rude implements used in their peaceful pursuits, in the chase, and in war.

There is a place in this town which from the many pre-historic relics found there is called the "wigwam." There is another place where there have been found irregular pieces of flint, and flint chips. The material was doubtless brought from a distance and manufactured into arrow-heads, spear-heads, and whatever other articles the needs and ingenuity of the residents might have devised. This is strong evidence that the aborigines had a permanent residence here. If such were the case it is probable that they buried their dead here also, and that their remains lie somewhere in the soil of our town. I am not aware that any Indian bones have been found within those limits. It may be reserved for a member of this society to

unearth a long concealed Indian burying-ground.

The town records afford the most reliable source for the civil history of the place, as an incorporated municipality. The oldest records are somewhat difficult to read, on account of their worn and to some extent illegible condition, as well as their ancient orthography and quaint chirography. The labor of deciphering and transcribing some of the more difficult portions of the records has been undertaken by one of our number, and we shall know more from the records of the town than it has been practicable to know heretofore.

With regard to ancient landmarks the location of the residences of the early inhabitants, the boundaries of farms and early grants, and the elucidation of many obscure allusions in the town records, very much can be learned by a patient perusal of the Registry of Deeds.

Old deeds and papers that have withstood the waste of time and have been preserved in many of the old families will often give a clew to the establishment of important facts. The same may be said of such topics as the history of old houses, old cellars, and the location of old roads. Contemporary with the town records is the ecclesiastical history of the town. Church records, memoranda kept by the ministers and others are important in throwing light upon all matters relating to the religious life of the people. They are also valuable in a genealogical point of view. Obscure points in family history may be cleared up which would otherwise remain doubtful or unknown.

Events of wider interest connected with the history of the state of New England and of the United States, having

a bearing upon our town history, will furnish topics for investigation and discussion. The people of 'Topsfield from the earliest period of its history, whether acting as an incorporated body or each in his individual capacity, have borne an honorable part in whatever relations they have been called upon to act, and have an honorable record in civil, military, religious, educational and literary life.

Whatever is learned of the social life of our ancestors is of especial importance as throwing light upon their various characteristics. It is here that historical records are deficient. If we could have detailed accounts of their everyday life, their conversations, their daily intercourse with their neighbors and friends, the routine of their Sabbath observations, their social gatherings as far as they had any full records, of their church meetings and town meetings, their domestic life, their habits upon their farms and in their houses, their meals, their religious observances, the government of their households, the education of their children, such minute accounts would be worth more than a whole volume of history as it is usually written.

It will be the aim of the society to encourage and promote the study of natural history. A scientific knowledge of natural objects is not only desirable but highly useful. It has been too much neglected. Perhaps the neglect is largely due to the difficulty of making a be-

ginning and getting a good start in the pursuit in question. When one has taken up the subject and has become interested, it is easy to keep on in one's investigations and add greatly to one's knowledge. Many who take up the study of the natural sciences become fascinated by them. In the department of zoology there is one branch, entymology, that ought to command our special attention. If more were known by the owners of our orchards of the habits of the canker worm, more might be done and more successfully to prevent the ravages of that pest of the apple trees.

The same might be said of other insects injurious to vegetation; as the apple-tree borer, the caterpillar, the currant worm, the squash bug, the corn worm, the Colorado beetle, *et id omne genus*.

The care and management of domestic animals and their diseases is a subject that is uppermost in people's minds at the present time and well deserves their investigation and study.

Botany and mineralogy will also come in for a share of our attention.

Some of the members have given special attention to natural history and will no doubt favor the society with papers from time to time that will be interesting and instructive.

After all, the most important object of our work will be the study of the generations that have preceded us, to improve upon our ancestors, and profit thereby.



GOV. BRADSTREET'S HOUSE IN NORTH ANDOVER.
Erected in 1667.

ANNE BRADSTREET.

HER LIFE AND WORKS.

BY METTA BRADSTREET.

Anne Bradstreet, noted as the earliest female poet in America, was the daughter of Thomas Dudley and wife of Simon Bradstreet, two of the founders and early governors of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

The ancestry of that branch of the Dudley family to which Madam Bradstreet belonged is simply a matter of conjecture. Extensive researches have failed to prove the connection with John Dudley Duke of Northumberland, which several of the Dudley descendants claim.

Her father, Thomas Dudley, was born in Lincolnshire, Eng., in 1576 or '77 and was the only son of Captain Roger Dudley who fell in battle in 1586. Thomas was taken from school at an early age and became a page in the family of Lord Compton. After this he served as a lawyer's clerk, and then we find him at the head of a body of eighteen volunteers, part of a force collected by Elizabeth to aid the French king. From these various occupations he derived considerable legal skill, straightforwardness, honesty and courage. Under the preaching of the famous Puritan minister, Dodd, he became a Nonconformist and ever after adhered strictly to the views which he adopted.

For several years Dudley was steward of the Earl of Lincoln's estate, then he removed to Boston, Lincolnshire, where he became acquainted with Rev. John Cotton, his afterward companion in the New World. His wife, Dorothy, is spoken of in the record of their marriage as a "Gentlewoman whose Extract and Estate were Considerable." Anne was their second child, born in 1612, probably at Northampton. Of her early youth and bringing up we know but little. She was evidently religiously and strictly trained and from her works it is plain that she had read and studied with unusual diligence for one of her age and sex. At this time she had a rich field of study.

The quarter of a century preceding the departure of the Mass. Bay Company was one of the most glorious in the history of English literature. New books were appearing in unwonted numbers. Spenser, Sidney, Shakespeare, and Cervantes had recently died leaving choice additions to the literature of the world.

In this period of literary activity Madam Bradstreet passed the first eighteen years of her life. With literary tastes her surroundings during this time were such as to create and satisfy a desire for poetical and historical studies. Of her mother, who died in 1643 at the age of 61, little is known, not even her maiden name. In an epitaph to her, her daughter says:

"A worthy matron of unspotted life,
A loving mother, and obedient wife"—

and farther on in the poem,

"A true instructor of her family
The which she ordered with dexterity."

Her father, too, seems to have taken especial pains in instructing this daughter if we may judge from what she says of him:

"He was my father, guide, instructor too,
And who more cause to boast his worth
than I,
Who heard, or saw, observed, or knew
him better,
And who alive, than I, a greater debtor."

At the age of sixteen she was married to Simon Bradstreet, the son of a Nonconformist minister of Lincolnshire. Bradstreet was born at Horbling, March, 1603. He was educated at the grammar school until he was fourteen, when his father's death made it necessary for him to leave. He was taken into the family of the Earl of Lincoln under the care of Dudley. He was at Emmanuel College one year, having had, as he himself wrote, "a very pleasant but unprofitable time in the society of the Earl of Lincoln's broth-

er and other companions." Notwithstanding this he became a good scholar, taking his bachelor's degree in 1620 and his master's four years later. On Dudley's removal to Lincolnshire he became steward in his place managing the estate with equal skill, and at the time of his marriage he held the same position to the aged Countess of Warwick.

Religious and political affairs in England being in a bad state and boding ill for the future, on June 26th, 1629, Dudley with eleven others signed an agreement whereby they pledged themselves to remove with their families to New England by the first of the next March, provided the whole government, together with the patent, should be legally transferred before the last of September to remain with such plantation. Although Dudley had from 1627 been interested in the planting of a colony he evidently had no connection with the company till Oct. 15, 1629. On that day he and Winthrop were first present at a meeting. On Oct. 20, Dudley was chosen an assistant, and on Mar. 18, Bradstreet was elected to the same office. From that time they devoted their lives to the interests of the company, holding various high offices, and had at times committed to them the arrangement of business of vital consequence to the Colony. On board the "Arbella," Mar. 23d, Dudley was chosen Deputy-Governor in place of Mr. John Humphrey, who was to stay behind in England.

On Monday, March 23d, the little band of Puritans set sail in their four small vessels, the "Arbella," "Talbot," "Ambrose," "Jewell." Most of the prominent people were on the "Arbella." Among them were Isaac Johnson and his wife, the delicate Lady Arbella; and here, too, was the governor, John Winthrop. With them, without doubt, were Mrs. Bradstreet, her father, mother and husband. "From April 6th till June 12th they did not again set foot on dry land and then it was to tread the soil of the New World." They had a long, cold, rainy voyage, the dreariness of which they tried to cheer by preaching, singing, fasts and thanksgiving. Small wonder, that the heart of our poetess thus called upon to

leave her native country with its many attractions, and her pleasant home with its dear associations, rebelled for a while at the desolate, even dangerous prospect before her. On the seventy-second day of their voyage the homesick, sea-worn travellers came in sight of the rocky but welcome shores of Mt. Desert. "We had now, fair sunshine weather and so pleasant a sweet air as did much refresh us, and there came a smell off the shore like the smell of a garden," writes Winthrop.

They landed at Salem, then after exploring the Charles and Mystic Rivers they brought their goods to Charlestown and here made a settlement of fifteen hundred people. The colony here was broken up because of lack of running water, general sickness, etc., and they went for a while to Boston across the river. In December, 1630, they decided upon Cambridge (then called Newtown) as a good location for their colony. Here Dudley and Bradstreet both resided, the former's house standing at the corner of the present Dunster and South Streets. Bradstreet's stood near the colleges, on the spot where the University Bookstore of Messrs. Sever and Francis on Harvard Square, now is. Here Madam Bradstreet's first poem was written in 1632, at the age of 19, "Upon a Fit of Sickness."

In 1635, Dudley and Bradstreet are found enrolled among the inhabitants of Ipswich. There they continued from 1635 to nearly 1644. Mrs. Bradstreet mentions her residing there, but we have no particulars respecting her stay in that town. One of her long poems, "A Dialogue between Old England and New," was written there.

On the 4th of March, 1634 or '5, we have this record: "It is ordered that the land aboute Cochichowicke shall be reserved for an inland plantation," etc. This is the first mention of what was afterward the town of Andover. The early settlements were made in that part near Cochichowick Brook, now known as North Andover. To this settlement came Simon Bradstreet and his wife sometime previous to 1644. Here Madam Bradstreet lived a busy, useful life, her

time fully occupied by the cares of her family, attendance on religious meetings, and other duties incumbent upon her as the wife of a popular magistrate. Her husband, too, was often absent from home for long periods, intent upon the business of the colony, once even returning to England. Those were times of great gloom and hardship to our poetess, as the letters written to her husband at those periods will show. The time which she spent in verse-making was curtailed from her sleep and other refreshments. The house which they occupied there was burned to the ground July 10th, 1666. Many of her books and valuable manuscripts were thus destroyed among them them the closing part of her poem, "The Four Monarchies," on which she had spent much time and labor. The accident was so discouraging that she had no heart to proceed further, and left the poem forever unfinished.

Not far from the site of the first meeting-house of Andover is a large, old-fashioned house, the oldest in the place. It has always been believed in the town that this was the Governor's house, built to take the place of that burned, and its size, solidity of construction and position tend to strengthen the belief. If so Madam Bradstreet must have lived in it a few years, as she did not die till 1672, six years after the fire, and then in Andover. The house was later known to be the residence of their son Dudley. It stands on the old Haverhill and Boston road, within a few feet of the way, and has a southerly aspect. It has two full stories in front but sloped to a single one in the rear. The doors are small and low. The frame of the house is very heavy with massive old timbers; an immense chimney runs up in the centre.

Mrs. Bradstreet had eight children. First, Samuel, who was educated at Harvard College and practiced as a physician in Boston for many years, died in the island of Jamaica where he had removed. Second, Dorothy, who married the Rev. Seaborn Cotton, eldest son of the Rev. John Cotton of Boston. Third, Sarah, who married Richard Hubbard at Ipswich, brother of the Rev. Wm. Hubbard, the historian. After his death,

she married Maj. Samuel Ward of Marblehead. Fourth, Simon, also educated at Harvard, and ordained pastor of the church at New London, Conn., in 1670. Fifth, Hannah, married Andrew Wiggin of Exeter, N. H. Sixth, Mercy, married Maj. Nathaniel Wade of Medford. Seventh, Dudley, who resided in Andover, holding several important offices in the town. During the witch-craft delusion he, as magistrate, granted thirty or forty warrants for the apprehension and imprisonment of the supposed witches, but refusing to grant more he fell himself a victim to the same charge and was obliged to secrete himself for a while. He died in 1702, having won the love and confidence of his fellow townsmen. Eighth, John, born in Andover 1652 and resided in Topsfield on Governor Bradstreet's grant of land in the eastern part of the town. He married Sarah, daughter of Rev. William Perkins of this town. They had five children. He died in Topsfield, Jan. 11, 1718.

All but one daughter, Dorothy, were living at the time of Madam Bradstreet's death in 1672, at the age of sixty. Her burial-place is unknown. No stone bearing her name can be found in the old burying ground at Andover. It is probable that her remains were deposited in her father's tomb in Roxbury. It is also unfortunate that there is no portrait of her in existence. Four years after her death, her husband married again, this time to the widow of Capt. Joseph Gardner of Salem, and daughter of Emmanuel Downing.

Anne Bradstreet's descendants have been numerous and many have achieved fame in the world of letters. Some of the most noted are, her grandson, Rev. Simon Bradstreet, who though eccentric, was one of the most learned men of his day. Dr. William Ellery Channing, the celebrated divine. Rev. Joseph Buckminster of Portsmouth and his son. Richard H. Dana, the poet, and the Hon. Richard H. Dana, Jr., eminent as a man of letters and lawyer. Doctor Oliver Wendell Holmes, poet and humorist. Mr. Wendell Phillips, the orator.

Mrs. Bradstreet's poems show that she had been a faithful student of history, an

assiduous reader and a keen observer of nature and of what was taking place both at home and abroad. Her familiarity with the Bible is apparent all through her writings. Du Bartas, a French poet whose works were regarded with much favor by the Puritans, was her favorite author. The general idea of her longer poems may have been suggested by a study of his works. Sir Philip Sidney, writer, poet, and soldier, was another favorite, as her eulogy on him will show.

Although Madam Bradstreet's works may be greatly inferior to what women since her day have accomplished, up to that time no poet of her sex in Europe had written anything of equal literary merit. She was a loving wife and a tender mother. Her children were constantly on her mind. Prompted by her love for them she wrote out her religious experiences in a little book, in which she also kept a record of sickness, religion, etc. The book is thus dedicated:

"To my dear children:—

This book by any yet unread,
I leave for you when I am dead;
That being gone here you may find
What was your living mother's mind.
Make use of what I leave in love,
And God shall bless you from above."

From some of her poems it appears that she must have loved to wander in the woods and fields and have found there the companionship which she missed elsewhere. Her constant studying and writing had evidently exposed her to the criticism of her neighbors. The fact of a woman's being able to compose anything of any merit was then regarded with the greatest surprise and disdain. Despite the danger from wild beasts which inhabited the woods, and the Indians whose assaults were a constant dread, she continued to visit field and forest, meditating on their winning charms and grand and silent beauty: and to ramble along the banks of her loved Merrimac, where many of her poems were composed. The graceful beauty of one of these, her "Contemplations," leads us to wish that she had spent less time over her histories and sought more often the fair face of nature. This

one poem proves her more truly a poet than the many others which she wrote. All the poems in the first edition of her works were written before she was thirty, though they were not published until 1650 and then without her consent or knowledge. The later editions contain several poems found among her papers at her death and which seem not intended for publication. Having had from birth a very delicate constitution and through life many sicknesses, fevers, etc., she bore all with meekness and resignation. In spite of her feeble health she continued to write till near the date of her death.

In 1647, Rev. John Woodbridge, her sister Mercy's husband, sailed for England, taking with him the manuscript poems of our author. These he had published in London in 1650 under the title of "The Tenth Muse Lately sprong up in America. Or Sevrall Poems, compiled with great variety of Wit and Learning,—By a Gentlewoman in those parts." They were introduced to the reader in a short preface in which the author is described as "a Woman, honoured and esteemed where the lives, for her gracious demeanour, her eminent parts, her pious conversation, her courteous disposition, her exact diligence in her place, and discreet managing of her family." He also adds: "I feare the displeasure of no perfon in the publishing of these Poems but the Author's, without whose knowledge and contrary to her expectations I have presumed to bring to publick view what she resolved should never in such manner see the Sun." The poems were most extravagantly praised on their appearance by Rev. N. Ward, Cotton Mather, Rev. Benj. Woodbridge, President Rogers of Harvard University, and others.

On the merits of her productions I will say but little, leaving the listener as judge for himself. One can hardly expect that after "twice drinking the nectar of her lines" you will "welter in delight" like her enthusiastic critic, Pres. Rogers. Even if they do not show much poetic genius, they are certainly remarkable when we consider the time, place, and circumstances under which they were

written. She must have been a brave singer who could find heart for song amid the danger and hardships incident upon life in the New World at that time. Her poems are quaint and curious. They contain beautiful and original thoughts, some of which are not badly expressed and they form an odd and valuable relic of the earliest literature of our country. The listener must bear in mind that no congenial and gifted minds were near to

cheer or inspire her, no circle of brilliant wits to sharpen and brighten her intellect. She had no beautiful environments, no famous works of art to elevate or direct her taste, but the country was a barren wilderness, destitute of all poetical associations. Life was then a series of hard, obstinate facts, and the people among whom our songstress was called to dwell were the last in the world to encourage or appreciate a poet.

The Burning of Rea Tavern, Topsfield, October, 1836.

A paper prepared by Mrs. T. K. Leach and read before the Topsfield Historical Society, Friday evening, April 5th, 1895.

In the year 1836, Mr. Leach and myself were married and came to Topsfield the second day of May. We moved into Mr. Fred Perley's new house, the one owned by Mr. Andrew Gould today. In the house lived four families; in the upper tenements lived the families of Nehemiah Balch and Joseph Lovett, and Dea. John Wright, and our family occupied the lower floor. Mr. John Wright manufactured shoes and employed many men, some of whom he boarded in his own family. Of the many who lived in the house at that time, I know of but two besides myself who are alive today, Mr. David Adams of Lynn, and Mr. Nehemiah Balch's son Charles of Lowell, who was a mere child three years old, at that time. On the opposite side of the street from which we lived, stood the Rea tavern, which was a large two-story square house, a barn or stable owned by Mr. John Rea, and a two-story building, which was occupied by the firm of Herrick & Perkins (Charles Herrick & Amos Perkins) in the manufacture of shoes.

At the time of which I write, we were all young and full of life, and the calls we made on one another were numerous and not very ceremonious. I often ran

across the street to see Eliza Bradstreet, the house-keeper of Mr. John Rea, and Betsey Gould, the maid servant, who afterwards became Mrs. Samuel Adams. As Mr. Rea was a widower and Eliza his house-keeper, we often joked with Eliza at the prospect of her becoming Mrs. Rea, which Eliza would promptly resent. Betsey was not slow, and with what aid I could give her, we made the tavern ring with laughter and mirth.

Now, about the fire which consumed the tavern, stable and shoe factory, in the fall of the year 1836. I was awakened one Monday morning in October, about one o'clock, by a noise, arousing my husband, who sprang up and looking out of the window, said, "We are all afire." I asked him if I had time to dress, and he said, "It is Rea's," and gave the alarm in the house, which was alive instantly. I went to the front room and looked out, and the flames were just bursting out of the Northwest end of the tavern, and no one was astir but the hostler, Joseph Hastings, who was in the act of leading out one of the horses. Mr. Rea had two, both of which were led out, but one rushed back and perished.

Mr. Hastings slept in the attic of the

tavern next to the barn, and being suddenly awakened spang from his bed and rushed down stairs and in his descent his first impulse was to awaken the inmates. Opening the door of a side room occupied by Mr. Rea's brother's family to give the alarm, he was surprised to see Mr. Rea dressed in his Sunday clothes, with that huge black breast pin on, of which so much was said in the trial which followed, a dress which people remarked about as hardly fitting in which to fight a fire. Mrs. Rea was dressed in a flannel night gown, a garment which her husband, who said he could not tell what would happen before morning, had advised her to wear. This was testified to by Mrs. Charles H. Holmes in the court, being so informed by Mrs. Rea. Mr. Rea had packed his trunk, which he took up to Mr. Moses Wildes' house, and threw into the window by the end door. Mr. Hastings then opened the door to Eliza's room; she was fast asleep with Mr. Rea's little son.

In no time the whole village was aroused, and a man was despatched on horse back to Salem for an engine and ladders, which came with all due speed. The engine was attached to the town well (the one in use today,) and strange to say, it never sucked air but once. Rev. McEwen stood guard over the well, that no water should be wasted. Mr. Samuel Gould's two wells and Capt. Munday's one supplied all the water used at the fire.

The house in which we lived was in constant peril, and the manner in which we saved it was by carrying tubs of water to the attic and taking the clothes stripped from the bed, putting them into the tubs, and laying them thoroughly saturated with water on the roof and keeping them so until the engine arrived from Salem.

Mr. Perley's other house (now Mr J. B. Poor's) was used by Mr. Perley's brother Nat and himself as a variety store; it was filled with goods, and in his anxiety to save it, Nat, who went to the roof for that purpose, slipped and fell to the L, injuring himself seriously.

Mr. Benjamin Kimball had nearly finished his house, and with shavings and boards lying around the ground it seemed almost sure of destruction, but the timely arrival of the engine and ladders, which brought a large number of canvas sails, saved that and the other building.

When I came from the attic after assisting in wetting the blankets, I met Mr. Perley at the foot of the stairs; he said that we must clear the house as it was sure to go, we could not save it. I commenced to pack; I took a very large band box, (large enough to hold a dozen bonnets like those worn now-a-days) and put into it my dinner-set, comprising two dozen cups and saucers, milk pitcher, sugar bowl, two dozen plates, glass cup-plates, and preserve dishes, that filled the box. This I did in my parlor, and took them to the outer door. Then somebody said, "Here, Mrs. Leach, let me take the basket." Of this I was thankful, it was so heavy. The man carried it to Mr. Benjamin Kimball's land, and just as he was in the act of setting it down, out came the bottom of the box. I was fortunate in this accident, as but two glass dishes were broken, a fact which I discovered when I went to get them after the danger from the fire had passed. I was thoroughly surprised, however, to find that I could not lift the box, try as hard as I could, when I attempted to take it into the house. We got it back at last, and as they were bringing it in, a terrible crash came. I thought my dishes had gone at last, but it happened to be the ladder that went through the window as they were taking them from the house.

Many amusing things occurred while we were preparing to leave the house. I wanted to save my milk pitcher, so turned the milk which it contained on the floor. Mrs. Balch, in saving her linen, tied it up in a sheet, and her camphor-bottle she emptied into the sink, and the odor of camphor was present with us long after the fire. I looked for my wedding-dress, which was a lavender silk, and found it in the wood-basket, and a rug tucked into a bureau drawer.

So after the fire, as in all country towns, things quieted down and we thought but little about it till the next Sunday morning, when my husband came in and said,

"Two men were hung last night on the sign-post." I had another scare, but he laughed and added, "only in effigy." I went to the front window and sure enough, there hung what appeared to be two men; one had on a breast-pin made of leather, which was conspicuous by its immensity. Our good man Samuel Hood, learning of this, and as it was our good old New England Sabbath when all were expected to go to church, hurried to the scene with ladder in hand, and soon brought them to the ground, and laid them away. Other eyes saw this, and when the opportunity came, as it did after the people were in church, brought out the deposed effigies, and laid them across the wall that *fronted the burnt district*.

Of course the fire was the one theme talked about for a long time, and it leaked out that Rea found a letter threatening him if he continued his visits to see Ann Sawyer, that his buildings would be burnt over his head. He said that he picked the letter up on returning from one of his visits to the lady, and that he also knew who wrote it. People remarked very generally that it was high time such folks were brought to justice, and if he or his brother Samuel knew who it was that did such a thing, he should be brought out in a trial. It became so uncomfortable for those immediately interested that a warrant was sworn out, and Eliza Bradstreet was arrested by Sheriff Sprague of Salem on a charge of arson. Pars on McEwen tendered to the Sheriff his house (now owned by Mrs. Ephraim Peabody), while he had Eliza in charge, which was accepted by them. They remained there during the whole trial.

The court assembled in the upper part of the Academy building, and lasted eleven days. J. W. Proctor, Esq., of South Danvers presided. Ashael Huntington of Salem was counsel for the government and Leveret Saltonstall, Esq., of Salem, appeared for Eliza. The attorneys King and Mack of Salem assisted in the trial, but in what capacity I am unable to write. There was little work done at home; every lady in the town attended court. I was there every day.

Mr. Huntington made the opening ad-

dress, during which he held aloft the letter that Mr. John Rea said that he had found, and in a high and powerful voice, declared that he should prove the charge by it, she, Eliza, having gone over it with her pen after it was written, which was called "painting." Mr. Samuel Rea had the severest examination. I think he was on the stand four or five days, and that beautiful breast-pin was often alluded to.

The trial waxed warm and bitter, lasting, as I have written, eleven days, days that, as the sun went down, grew darker and darker for Eliza, but confidence in his client, and satisfaction in the result that he would prove to the world that Eliza Bradstreet was innocent of the charge of arson,—a charge actuated by selfish and unkind motives,—spurred on Saltonstall. The thunder clap came when her brother took the stand, and in answer to the question. "Did your sister ever write to you?" replied with an emphatic "No." "Did she give any reason?" continued Saltonstall, to which he replied, "Yes." "Dear brother, my will is good enough, but I cannot write." Others testified to this fact, which appeared to be the deciding point in the trial.

When the trial was ended, the court adjourned to the church for the closing pleas. Two days elapsed before we got the verdict, but on the morning of the 4th of March, 1837, Eliza Bradstreet was acquitted of the charge of arson. The verdict was, "Could not sustain the charge."

The bells pealed forth the joyful news. It was the day that President Van Buren was inaugurated, and people out of town thought Topsfield was getting unusually patriotic.

In closing this paper, I will say that this is written from memory, and not from notes. I do not think that I have misquoted anyone, or misstated any of the facts. Of the principals in this famous trial,—a trial which was never recorded save by Him who knoweth all things that are done in this earth,—I will say that Mr. John Rea married Ann Sawyer, and moved to the British Provinces, and Eliza Bradstreet became Mrs. Silas Cochrane.

Topsfield Minute Men at the Battle of Lexington.

"At a Meeting of the Alarm List and Training Band of the Foot company in Topsfield, on the 5th of December, 1774, to choose officers for the said Company, (agreeable to the advice of the Provincial Congress), voted, Mr. Stephen Perkins, chairman; voted, Mr. Joseph Gould, Captain.

The Day being Spent, a Motion was made for said Meeting to be adjourned to the next Morning, 9 o'clock; the Question was put and passed in the Affirmative and accordingly said Meeting was adjourned to said Time.

December 6. Said Alarm List and Training Band met according to Adjournment, a Motion was made said Company to be divided into two distinct Companies; the Question was put and accordingly they were divided into two Companies; the first Company voted Mr. Joseph Gould, Captain; Mr. Samuel Cummings, Lieutenant; Mr. Thomas Moore, Ensign; and all the other Officers by a great Majority. The second Company voted Mr. Stephen Perkins, Captain; Mr. Samuel Dodge, Lieutenant; Mr. David Perkins, Ensign; and all the other Officers by a great Majority."

Essex Gazette, Dec 27, 1774.

The following Muster Rolls were copied from the State Archives by Geo. Frs. Dow, and the dates of birth and death were inserted by the late John Hood Gould.

North Ward Company.

A Roll of the Company which marched from Topsfield under the Command of Capt. Stephen Perkins in consequence of the alarm on ye 19th April, 1775.

	BORN	DIED
Capt. Stephn Perkins	1726	1790
Lt. Solo. Dodge	—	—
2d Lt. David Perkins	1725	1803
Ser. Sam'l Bradstreet	1729	1777
" Jacob Kimball	1734	1810
" Nath'l Dorman	1740	1776
" Thos. Cummings	1741	1806
Corp'l Benj. Hobbs	1749	1833
" Ezra Perkins	1753	1824
" Josiah Lamson	1751	1836
Nath'l Averell	1747	1811
Isaac Averell	1740	1816
Amos Averell	1747	1805
Dan'l Boardman	1752	1803
John Batchelor	1743	1819
Israel Clarke	1732	1790
Josiah Cummings	1756	—
Ephraim Dorman	1741	1818
Stephen Foster	1741	1791
Wm. Gallop	1750	—
Hez'h Hodgskins	d. New Ipswich, N. H.	
Nath'l Hammon	1757	1842
Isaac Hobbs	1743	1830
David Hobbs	1752	1830
Jon'a Hobbs	1754	1833
Benja. Hood	1748	1801
Ivey Hovey	1756	1816
Richard Hood	1751	1824
John Lams on	1756	—
Amos Low	1752	—
Aaron Kneeland	1754	d. Me.
Thomas Perkins	1725	1801
Sam'l Perkins	1730	1810
Rob't Perkins	1728	1801
Oliver Perkins	1744	1825
Jacob Peabody	—	—
Steph'n Perkins	1745	1796
Zeb'n Perkins	1740	1810
Jos. Perkins	1738	1805
Elisha Perkins	1745	—
Jos. Symonds	1749	—
Jacob Symonds	1749	1801

	BORN	DIED
Dan'l Towne	1736	1808
Jacob Towne	1728	1807
Moses Wildes	1740	1810
Eph'm Wildes	1744	1812
Jno. LeFavour	1748	1834

The company marched 60 miles and saw 2½ days service. Capt. Perkins received £1 2 ¼, while the privates of the company received 10s-8d.

South Ward Company.

A muster Roll of Capt. Joseph Gould; Company of the Militia whereof John Baker Esq. is Coll. who marched on the 19th day of April last past in consequence of the Alarm made on that Day by the English Troops.

Topsfield, December 26, 1775.

	BORN	DIED
Capt. Joseph Gould	1715	1803
Lieut. Sam'l Cummings	1732	1796
Ens. Thos. Mower	—	—
Sergt. Nehemiah Herrick	1737	d. Vt.
“ John Peabody	1730	1802
“ David Towne, jr.	1744	1815
“ Thomas Porter	1751	—
Corp. Cornelius Balch	1749	1795
“ Ebenezer Knight	—	—
“ Benj. Gould	1751	1841
Drum Elijah Perkins	1756	1841
David Balch, jr.	1753	1812
Robert Balch	1745	—
David Balch, 3d	1741	died
	[Keene, N. H.	
Roger Balch	1755	1842
Israel Balch	1756	1778
Samuel Balch	1744	—
David Balch	1714	1787
Daniel Bigsbe, jr.	1751	1825
Dudley Bigsbe	1756	—
Benjamin Brown	—	—
Thomas Baker, jr.	1752	—
Henry Bradstreet	1742	1818

	BORN	DIED
Daniel Bigsbe	1714	1775
John Cree	1722	1794
Samuel Cree	—	—
Joseph Cree	1753	—
Bartholo'w Dwinel	1728	1801
John Dwinel	1745	1818
Daniel Eastey	1739	1830
Wm. Eastey	1748	—
Nathaniel Fisk	1741	1815
Samuel Fisk	1747	1826
Simon Gould	1755	1831
Thomas Gould	1732	1778
Zaccheus Gould	—	—
John Gould, jr.	1749	1820
John Gould, 3d	1746	1819
Nath'l Gould	1753	1842
Daniel Gould	1753	1842
John Gould	1746	1816
Enos Knight	—	—
Benj. Kimball	—	—
Eliezer Lake, jr.	1751	1824
Eliezer Lake	1724	1796
Daniel Porter	1743	1831
Moses Perkins jr.	1755	1806
Thomas Perkins, 3d	1753	d.N.H.
Moses Perkins	1732	1807
William Ray	1755	1779
John Ray, jr.	1751	1821
John Ray	1736	1797
Ephraim Towne, jr.	1753	1804
Joseph Towne	1728	1789
Joseph Towne, jr.	1749	1820
Arch. Towne	1752	1804
Stephen Towne, jr.	1741	—
David Towne	1715	1778
Jeremiah Towne, jr.	1743	—
Wm. Towne	1751	—
Joshua Towne	1721	1788

The company marched 60 miles and saw a service of 3 to 5 days. Capt. Gould was paid £1-6-5, while the privates received about 12s. 1¼d. as an average.

William Towne, his Daughters, and the Witchcraft Delusions.

BY MRS. ABBIE W. TOWNE.

The name of Towne is not one of frequent occurrence in England; the first mention of it is in A. D. 1227. The next we hear of the name is one hundred and thirty years later, in the reign of Henry IV., when upon the windows of the church in Kennington, Kent Co., unpaled with that of Ellis of the same place, were the arms of a family by this name being, *argent, on a chevron, sable, three cross crosslets, ermine*. The next reference to the name known to the writer, is in the county of Lincoln where it has existed for more than four hundred years.

Richard Towne of Braceby in the county of Lincoln, married Ann,—they had ten children; one of these children, William, was baptized May 31, 1603, and is supposed to be our Anglo-American progenitor. Ann Towne's will was proved May 10, 1630. William B. Towne of Brookline, Mass., has a copy of this will. That our William was the son of Richard and Ann is probable, but there is no absolute proof, and before we go on to the facts that we can prove, I wish to speak of another William Towne who came to America. He was living at Cambridge, Mass., in 1635, was made a freeman or voter in 1637, and was quite a prominent man in the infant colony. He married Martha—and died in 1685, leaving two children Peter and Mary. Peter was married but left no son and thus ended the family name in Cambridge. I have spoken of this William because I do not think it generally known that there were two; this has caused much confusion in times past.

William Towne of Salem, Mass., is the father of the Towne race in America. Mr. Cleveland says in his centennial address in 1850, "This descendants have settled in two-thirds of the states of the Union," and Mr. Hubbard says in his Towne genealogy, "There are few families deriving their name from a single pair that can

show a larger number of descendants than William and Joanna (Blessing) Towne. Counting only the descendants of the Towne daughters of the first and second generations, a list of more than ten thousand might be easily made out without coming down later than the earlier part of the nineteenth century."

William Towne and Joanna Blessing were married at St. Nichols church, Yarmouth, Norfolk Co., England, March 25, 1620. Their children were — Rebecca, baptized Feb. 21, 1621, married Francis Nurse of Salem Village; John, baptized Feb. 16, 1624, died before his father; Susanna, baptized Oct. 20, 1625, died before her father; Edmund, baptized June 28, 1628, married Mary Browning of Salem; Jacob, baptized March 11, 1632, married Catharine Symonds of Salem; Mary, baptized Aug. 24, 1634, married Isaac Esty of Topsfield; Sarah, baptized Sept. 3, 1648, married Edmund Bridges, and second, Peter Cloise; Joseph, baptized Sept. 3, 1648, married Phebe Perkins, daughter of Deacon Thos. Perkins.

The first we hear of this family in Salem, Essex Co., is in the book of early grants, where the following appears: "8 mo. 1640, granted to Wm. Towne a little neck of land right over against his house on the other side of the river." William Towne's residence was in that part of Salem known as Northfields. He remained at this place until 1651, when he purchased a tract of land in Topsfield of William Paine of Ipswich, containing "forty acres of ground or thereabouts, whereof six acres is by the seller, which Wm. Howard of Topsfield built, and about thirty-two acres joining up to the said six acres eastward of it, part of which is plow ground another part is meadow, another part is upland unplowed all lying together having the meadow and the plow ground of the said William Howard towards the east, and the ground

of Walter Ropes towards the north and a certain river towards the south, also a little meadow of about two acres lying on the south side of the river." In 1652 he sold his property in Salem and purchased additional lands in Topsfield. In 1663 "in consideration of natural affection and the contemplated marriage of their son Joseph Towne to Phebe Perkins, daughter of Dea. Thomas Perkins, he and his wife conveyed to their son Joseph two-thirds of the home wherein they then did dwell, with barn, out houses, yard, gardens, orchards, lying situate and being in Topsfield together with a parcel of land, etc., etc." All these conveyances being made with the desire that their son Joseph should have the first refusal of the remaining third when the same should be for sale. William Towne died about 1672; his widow seems to have survived him about ten years. The sons were prominent men; we find their names many times as appraisers of estates and also that they settled many estates. In 1669 Edmond and Jacob laid out the road leading towards the south from the bridge near their father's house. This road was to be one pole wide, and must be one of the oldest roads on the south side of the river.

It is hardly necessary for me to give any account of the witchcraft delusion, which swept over our quiet neighborhood two hundred years ago; all are familiar with that terrible story. Rebecca Nurse was the fourth victim. Upham says the only clue to the mystery that a person of Mrs. Nurse's character should be selected, was the prosperous condition of the Nurse family and trouble about bounds. Nevins thinks her near relationship to the Townes of Topsfield, who were actively interested in settling the disputed bounds, had a bearing on the case. Two of her neighbors, Israel and Elizabeth Porter, were sent to acquaint her with the fact that she had been accused. They found her very weak and suffering, but patient, and she blessed God that she had more of Him in her weakness than in her strength. When we told her that she had been spoken of, she said, "Well, if it be so, the will of the Lord be done," she sat a while being,

as it were, amazed, and then she said, "Well, as to this thing, I am as innocent as a child unborn, but surely," she said, "What sin hath God found out in me unrepented of that he should lay such an affliction upon me in my age." It is said she bore her examination with steadfast dignity and heavenly patience. One cannot read the description of these trials with any particle of patience. The people were barbarous, the judges little better. They were supposed to be counsel for the prisoners, but instead were really against them, and badgered the victims unmercifully. Rebecca Nurse was pronounced innocent by the jury, but the audience made such a clamor that the judge sent them out again and practically charged them to find her guilty, and they did so. It is related also by Upham that a woman in the audience threw her muff at Mrs. Nurse and as this did not hit her she took off her shoe and threw it with such good aim that it hit the poor old lady on the head, making quite a severe cut. When we think that this woman was seventy one years old, and in ill health, that she had been loved and respected to an unusual degree, and then picture her standing before the grave judges of the colony, a target for the mob, on trial for her life, we wonder that her brothers, her sons and her husbands had not rescued her by force. She was loaded with chains, taken to the church and excommunicated, and on July 19, 1692 hung on Gallows hill. The witches were not allowed christian burial, but were taken from the gallows, huddled into shallow hollows among the rocks, and covered with a thin layer of earth. I have been told that on one occasion the hand of one of the victims protruded above ground, as if the very earth itself refused them shelter.

According to tradition the sons of Rebecca Nurse stole their mother's body on the night following her execution, and carried it on their shoulders to their desolate home. Think what a journey it must have been for those men!

When Mr. Harris singled out Rebecca Nurse, and in his sermon called her a demon, Sarah Cloyre, her sister, arose and left the church. This was a natural thing

to do, but we of today can hardly realize the courage it required. The next day she too was cried out upon, she was tried and condemned, but for some reason never executed, some think she confessed but I do not; she was a brave woman, and a woman of the same family as Rebecca Nurse and Mary Esty, and I cannot think she could possibly say that she was a witch. She was confined at the Ipswich jail because there was no room at Salem and I am inclined to think that with so many victims near at hand she was forgotten.

Mary Esty (the self-forgotten), was accused for no other reason than her sympathy for her sisters; she was 48 years of age and the mother of seven children. During her examination the magistrates said to her, "confess if you be guilty." She answered, "I will say it if for the last time, I am clear of this sin." This was on April 21. On May 18 she was released. Two days after the accusing girls were seized with terrible convulsions, and said it was Mary Esty who cursed them. Accordingly a second warrant was procured, she was taken May 21 and removed to Salem for trial. After midnight she was aroused from sleep by the marshal, torn from her husband and children, carried back to prison loaded with chains, and finally consigned to a dreadful and most cruel death. Her husband referring to the transaction nearly

twenty years after said that it was a "hellish molestation." On the way to the gallows she was met by her family and friends, and of this meeting and parting Calef says, "that her words of farewell were said to have been as serious, religious, distinct, and affectionate as could well be expressed, drawing tears from the eyes of almost all present."

While in jail awaiting execution Mary Esty petitioned the governor, judges and ministers, "Not for my own life, for I know I must die and my appointed time is set, but the Lord he knows it is that if it be possible, no more innocent blood may be shed, which undoubtedly cannot be avoided in the way and course you now go in. By my own innocence I know you are in the wrong I would humbly beg of you that your honors would be pleased to examine these afflicted persons strictly, and keep them apart some time, and likewise to try some of these confessing witches, I being confident there are several of them have belied themselves, and others, as will appear, if not in this world, I am sure in the world to come, whither I am now going."

Upham closes his chapter on Mary Esty with these words: "The lofty tone of this message to the court recalls the perfect spirit of the prisoner on Calvary who entreated, 'Father forgive them; they know not what they do.'"

The Settlement of Topsfield.

GEO. FR. DOW.

Every township located wherever it may be, whether in the old time settlements along the Atlantic coast or springing up on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada, should have and generally is possessed of a natural spirit of inquiry as to its first settlement and early growth.

Who was the first settler and where did he build his house? When was the town incorporated and who were the petitioners?

These and kindred questions naturally rise to the lips of the inquirer, and oftentimes arouse differences of opinion not easily settled by the scanty records now existing. Tradition then comes to the assistance of the incomplete data, and almost without exception makes a bad matter worse so that who can wonder at the varying statements of historical fact met within the village or town that does not possess a printed history carefully prepared by an unbiased historian.

Topsfield is unfortunate in not possessing such a printed record of events, and the historical theories advanced from time to time by some ardent investigator can only be combated after collecting widely scattered data bearing upon the facts in the case.

The following historical sketch has been prepared from the original data found in the proceedings of the Great and General Court, the records of the Ipswich and Salem Courts, and the valuable material on file at the Registry of Deeds.

The early settlements along the shores of Massachusetts Bay owe their existence to the unrelentless persecution of the Puritans in England at the investigation of Archbishop Laud. Small fishing and trading posts had found a lodgement along the coast some years before the coming of Endicot, but these consisted of little else than a few rudely constructed huts for sheltering the lonesome fishermen who cared for the fish flakes.

The arrival at Salem in 1628 of John Endicot with a small party of one hundred emigrants was in reality the laying of the foundation of the first permanent

town in the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

John Endicot was a prominent member of the Non-conformist company, styled "The Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England," who had obtained from Charles I a patent for that part of New England lying between three miles to the northward of the Merrimac river and three miles to the southward of the Charles, and extending in breadth from the Atlantic to the South Sea. He had been chosen by the Company "to govern," and as Johnson says in his *Wonder working Providence*, was "a fit instrument to begin this wilderness work; of courage bold, undaunted, yet sociable, and of a cheerful spirit, loving or austere, as occasion served."

The patent or charter granted to these early settlers gave undisputed title to the land, for the scourge of small pox had shortly before their arrival almost completely annihilated the native race of Indians, and the rights of the few who had survived the pestilence, were easily purchased, so that full and just title to all the land was held by the Massachusetts Bay Company who alone could sell or grant.

In 1629 the settlers began to arrive and during the next four years, upwards of four thousand of them found homes in the infant colony.

In 1633, April 1st, the court of assistants ordered "that no person whatsoever shall go to plant or inhabit at Aggawam, without leave from the Court, except those that are already gone." The little party of adventurers was headed by John Winthrop, junr., and consisted of ten men. Two of them, Mr. William Perkins and Daniel Clark, afterwards settled in Topsfield, and two others, Mr. John Winthrop, junr., and Thomas Howlett received large grants of land in the town.

The town of Ipswich was incorporated in 1634 and grew rapidly in population and importance; it became the shire town of the county and several of the Assistants and other prominent men in the Colony built their homes near the slowly

flowing Agawam.

The surrounding country was explored and valuable meadows were discovered on following up the banks of the river to a point some seven miles inland. These to the new settler were particularly desirable since his cattle brought from the mother country, required hay for their sustenance, and the clearing of the almost unbroken forest was an undertaking requiring time and the assistance of many hands. Thus the New Meadows, as the locality was named, was much resorted to for the easily obtained meadow grass, and as the richness of the intervalle land was seen, settlers began to obtain grants and build their rude dwellings.

The earliest comers probably located about 1639-1640 as the following extract from the Colony records seems to show

"Whereas, at the Court holden at Boston the 4th, 7th mo. 1639, there was certain land lying near Ipswich River granted for a village, either to some of the inhabitants of Salem or some of the inhabitants of Ipswich who have farms near unto the said land, to be enjoyed by those who first settled a village there, they both propounding for it together; howsoever the order mentioneth only Salem inhabitants and for as much as the said inhabitants of Ipswich have for near this two years procured and maintained one to dispence the word of God unto them, which they intend to continue. It is therefore ordered and granted, that Mr. John Endecott and the said inhabitants of Ipswich, viz., Mr. Bradstreet, Mr. Symonds, Mr. Whittingham, Mr. William Paine, Mr. Robert Paine, and such other of Ipswich or Salem as they shall associate to themselves, shall have liberty to settle a village near the said river of Ipswich as it may be most convenient for them, to which the foresaid land shall belong, viz., all that which lieth near the said river (not formerly granted to any town or person), provided that any of the inhabitants of Salem, who have farms near unto the said land now granted, shall have liberty for one year next coming to joyne with the said village."

Mass. Colony Records,

Oct. 17, 1643.

Of the above named persons it is quite certain that one of them, Mr. Wm. Paine, resided in the new settlement, and he only at intervals, although Mr. Symonds for a part of the time may have lived on his farm known as "Olive-rs," which had

its southerly bounds on Pye Brook.

Of the settlers who were living at the New Meadows in 1645 we have the names of a few. Zaccheus Gould, Daniel Clark, the Redingtons, Abraham and John; Alexander Knight who dispensed the Word: Mr. Wm. Paine, the gentlemanly merchant; Walter Roper, carpenter; Wm. Howard and Isaac Cummings can probably be included in the list. Others followed, and in 1648 the villagers, feeling impressed with their growth and importance, petitioned the Court to bestow a name on "the village" at the New Meadows at Ipswich, which we suppose may be an encouragement to others to come to live amongst us; and also a means to further a ministry amongst us, we think that Hempstead will be a fit name if the Court please to gratify us herewith."

The petition was signed by Wm. Paine, Brian Pendleton and Zaccheus Gould. The town narrowly escaped being christened Hempstead as requested by the petitioners, for the deputies voted to grant the request: but when the court of magistrates came to consider the proposition, the action of the lower court was set aside and Toppesfield was substituted.

This action took place Oct. 18, 1648, and was probably influenced by Samuel Symonds, a large land owner in the village and an important Assistant. He had lived in the village of Toppesfield in the mother country, and no doubt was pleased to perpetuate the familiar name on the other side of the broad Atlantic. In 1650 Zaccheus Gould and William Howard, petitioned the Court to grant that Topsfield should henceforth be a town and have power within itself to order all civil affairs, and on Oct. the 18th of that year the request was granted and Topsfield began its separate corporate existence.

The settlement thus far without exception had been made on the north side of the river and by Ipswich people. No doubt the richer lands were sufficient inducement and the river Agawam itself served as a hindrance to the early occupation of the hills on its southerly side. In 1639 the Court had granted Mr. John Endecott 550 acres of land upon the Ipswich river on the north of Salem bounds. The court did not lay out the grant until

a number of years after, and then only at the repeated requests of Mr. Endecott at that time Governor of the Colony. Not until May 2, 1659 were the bounds set, having "a brook against Goodman Gould's land on the east, Blind Hole on the south, and the wilderness elsewhere surrounding the said farm, taking into the bounds thereof the swampy meadow land that lyeth on the south side of the river."

Evidences of the presence of copper ore were found on the hills in Blind Hole at the south of the river, and at the request of Gov. John Endecott the Court granted him Oct 14, 1651, "three hundred acres of woodland tending to the furtherance of a copper work he intends to set up in a place called Blind Hole, near to a farm formerly granted him, the said land not being formerly granted, provided he set up his said works within seven years."

The Governor engaged Richard Leader, who had been superintending the iron works at Lynn, to open his copper mine but ill success followed the venture and copper mining in Topsfield was abandoned for the space of over one hundred years. In 1771 the Massachusetts Spy reported "that the copper-mine some time since opened in Topsfield at 12 or 15 feet depth, affords such samples of fine lively ore extended in spatterings all over the pit, that experienced miners have declared the appearances preferable to any yet discovered in America."

Tradition has it that a large quantity of ore was taken to Salem and loaded into ships sailing across the sea in order that it might be smelted on the other side. Unfortunately disaster intervened, and the ships were never heard from. Whether the magnetic currents from the north treacherously waved from ore to compass or chilly icebergs floated in the course of the ships, the sea alone can tell. So perished the copper industry in Topsfield.

About 1651 was built the bridge across the river now known as "the river bridge." Walter Roper and William Howard were the prime movers in the enterprise, both being land owners near by, and no doubt being moved by the growth of the town and the greater need

of pasturage and timber as well as to make it easier to reach Salem, Lynn and Boston. The bridge was probably a rude structure well in keeping with the blazed bridge path "leading to the south." In 1669 this path became a ways one pole wide, hilly and but little travelled.

On the southerly side of Ipswich river, Topsfield has about two thousand acres of land. At the time we are speaking of Gov. Endecott owned some five hundred acres, being Blind Hole and a portion of the earlier grant; Simon Bradstreet afterwards Governor, claimed about two hundred acres of rich meadow land in the more easterly part, while farmer Porter of Salem village claimed title to a portion reaching to the river. The villagers at Topsfield laid claim to the greater part of the remainder both upland and meadow, and in 1661 the selectmen, Ensigne Howlett, Francis Pabodye and John Redington were ordered to lay out five hundred acres of upland to remain common to perpetuity and at the same time to divide the remainder of the common land both upland and meadow into three equal divisions. The matter of individual ownership of this common land lay in obedience until 1669, when the town met together and cast lots "that every one thereby may know what is his share and where it lies."

The lots were divided into three sizes, "single, dobel and trebel" and were portioned out accordingly as the commoners had been rated in the ministers rate for 1664, fifty shillings, twenty shillings, and under twenty shillings.

The list contains thirty names, all but three, Mr. Bradstreet, Mr. Endecott and Useton the Salem merchant, being resident in Topsfield and living on the north side of the river, with one exception, William Nichols who had in 1652 bought of Henry Bartholomew "a farm lying between the bounds of Salem and Ipswich river."

Following is the list which shows the heads of families and gives a basis on which to estimate the population of the town at that time, 1669, while the rating shows practically a tax list and the comparative wealth of the town.

Mr. Bradstreet	£ 2-17-02	Thos. Browning	£ 1-06-00
Mr. Perkins	2-03-09	Jacob Towne	1-94 05
Zacheus Gould	4-03 03	Isaac Estey	19 06
Mr. Baker	3-17-05	William Towne	1-12 07
Thos. Dorman	3-03-00	Edmond Towne	1-08-09
Francis Pabody	4-05-02	Matthew Standly	15 08
William Euens	2-11-00	Anthony Carell	11-01
Daniell Clark	1 04-05	John How	19-00
Isaac Cumings, senr.	13-08	Edmond Bredges	15-03
Isaac Cumings, junr.	1-08-00	William Nichols	1 12 09
Ensigne Howlett	1-08 09	Vsseltons Lott	— — —
William Smith	13-08	Lumpkins feirme	— — —
Francis Bates	09-00	Robt. Andrews land	12 00
Mr. Endicoat	1-02-00	So grew the village and prospered, and	
John Wiles	1-12-10	we today enjoy the full fruits of the fore-	
John Redington	3-05-02	sight of our straight backed and stern-	
Thomas Perkins	2-19-07	eyed ancestors from over the sea.	

PETITION FROM IPSWICH FARMERS.

*To the Inhabitants of the Town of Topsfield in Town Meeting assembled,
September ye 19: 1758.*

The Petition of us the Subscribers for our Selves and families Humbly Sheweth, That your Petitioners have always Laboured under Greate Difficulties Respecting our attending upon the Publick Worship of God—ye nearest of us Living near four Miles from the Publick Meeting Houses to which we belong and in a corner of The Parrishes Inhabited So that by Reason of the Distance & Difficalty of passing Especially in the Winter Season, it is Frequently impracticable for us and families to attend the Public Worship att our own Meeting Houses (as no doubt Gentlemen you are Sensible) & so have been obliged either to Tarry at Home or attend with you att Topsfield, where, Altho we must have been Burthensome yet we are always Ready to acknowledge we have been Treated with much kindness & Respect, & also Respecting the Grammar or any other Public Town School for ye Instruction of our Children. Such is our Situation that we can have no advan-

tage therefrom, unless we Board out our Children, which Inconveniency, with some others not Menshoned, we Humbly conceive might be in a Greate Measure Remedied by our being with our Estates (agreeable to a plan herewith Exhibited) Sett off from ye Town of Ipswich & annexed to ye Town of Topsfield, we therefore Humbly Pray that you wou^d Take our Case under your Consideration and Pass a Vote To Receive us our families and all ye Lands within ye plan aforemenshoned to be annexed to ye Town of Topsfield to be part and Parcel thereof & to do Duty and Receive Privilege therein: Provided the Town of Ipswich agree thereto & the Greate and General Court Confirm ye same, & if ye Town of Ipswich Refuse to Sett us off, Join with us in Petitioning to ye Great and General Court to Sett us off to your Town, and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound Shall Ever Pray.

JOSEPH COMEINGS,
JOHN LAMPSON, JUNR.,
ISRAEL CLARKE,
JABEZ ROSS,

THOS. CUMMINGS,
JOSEPH CUMINGS, JUNER,
JOHN LAMPSON YE THIRD.





UNIFORM OF WARREN BLUES.

Topsfield Warren Blues.

OLD TIME MASSACHUSETTS INDEPENDENT INFANTRY.

BY BENJAMIN J. BALCH.

The great merit of the Topsfield Warren Blues as a military company, and the great esteem with which the people regarded their infantry, deserves that its history should have been confided to abler hands. If the work which is here presented contains any merit it should in justice be ascribed to the subject alone. Its numerous defects the author can impute to no one but himself.

The interest which was taken in forming infantry companies sixty years ago was not confined to this locality alone. Almost every town in the commonwealth had its favorite independent infantry. The amusements of the people were centered mainly in the training days which brought out the gay uniforms, shining equipments and the animating march and drill of the soldiers to the sound of martial music.

The amusements and habits of the people sixty years ago were very different from those of the present day. More hours were given to labor every day through the year, boys were given scarcely a holiday through the year unless it was when the wonderful training day came round. In contrasting the habits of the people in those days with one whose memory goes back to that period he says "I remember well the single holiday given me for the year to go to Georgetown to see the parade of the Boxford Washington Guards and Topsfield Warren Blues. After my morning chores upon the farm were done, with six cents given me for spending money, which I counted a great sum, I ran all the way to Georgetown, seven miles, without resting so as to get there in season to hear the first drum beat. I have a recollection also, he says, of an experience that day

of a serious nature. With three of my six cents given me for spending money I bought an orange. My other three cents I laid up for safe keeping. My orange I ate peel and all, which made me so sick that it gives me a painful sensation even now to think of it."

The prudent habits in childhood of Dean Perley, which was the boy's name, followed him in after years. He has been a successful man in his business in the neighboring town of Danvers and is now hale and jolly as he was fifty-five years ago when he ran through the woods of Boxford to get early on the training ground. The training day then was about all that brought the people together, old or young, except the always fully attended church on Sunday. In contrast with the condition of society at that time we now have some half a dozen secret orders besides numerous other organizations, the public library and the Sunday newspaper. With all these provisions for the intellectual, moral and religious welfare of the people, it is somewhat doubtful if the conditions of the people are greatly advanced from what they were sixty years ago.

The chief motive of forming the Infantry company, says Mr. Wm. E. Kimball, one of the prime movers in the enterprise, was *for the fun of it*. Military drill, discipline and march to the sound of martial music was a joyous excitement. The gay uniforms, the shining equipages and the name of Infantry added to the interest. Back of it all the inspiring motive—the spirit of patriotism.

The captain of the old Militia, Nathaniel Conant, who was to be captain of the Infantry, was an officer in whom they all could take pride. He was then in the

prime of life, being 40 years of age, of fine military bearing and possessed a thorough knowledge of the art military, a quality which he inherited from his great ancestor, Roger Conant. Bancroft, speaking of Conant in his history, says "he was a man of extraordinary vigor. Inspired as if by some superior instinct he succeeded in breathing his sublime courage into his three companions, and they resolved to remain at the hazard of their lives as sentinels of the birth of American freedom."

"The Topsfield Warren Blues was organized, June 1836."

This is the wording of record kept by A. S. Peabody, clerk of the company, which is the only writing found among his papers which has any reference to the company. The person who came in possession of the record book of the company after it was disbanded, regarded it of no value and it became torn and defaced and finally it went to the waste basket. Independent Infantry companies are not registered at the State department. We are indebted to the kindness of Mr. John H. Towne for a copy of papers relating to the company which he had preserved from his father's papers, who was a member of the company. They read as follows:—

Topsfield, Aug. 26, 1835.

TO MR. BENJAMIN B. TOWNE:

Your first assessment for uniform and equipments is \$20.00 which you are requested to pay to the clerk of the Light Infantry on or before the 12th of September next.

Per order of standing committee,

WILLIAM E. KIMBALL, Chairman.

Topsfield, Sept. 10, 1836.

Received of Benjamin B. Towne the sum of \$20.00, it being his first assessment for uniform and equipments.

A. S. PEABODY, Clerk.

Topsfield, Sept. 28, 1836.

Received of Benjamin B. Towne the sum of \$20.00, it being his second and third assessments for a uniform and equipments.

A. S. PEABODY, Clerk.

Topsfield, Nov. 16, 1837.

You being duly enrolled as a member

of the T. W. Blues are hereby directed to appear in citizen's dress at Capt. William Munday's Tavern on Thursday, the 16th of November, at one o'clock to choose a Lieutenant and fill all vacancies that may appear or occur.

Per order of commander.

A. S. PEABODY, Clerk.

What further items we have gathered of the history of the company we learn from the few members of the company now living, and from various other sources. We are cautioned, however, not to rely too much upon memory or tradition to frame a history. Yet we have some warrant in standing fast and holding to the memory and tradition of the Elders. The finest literary productions the world has ever known, which form a part of the classic literature taught in our schools, were transmitted down by memory from generation to generation, ages before the invention of the alphabet. "Memory was the mother of the muses," their language the songs of the minstrel. To memory alone we owe the preservation of those lofty strains of poetic inspiration as they were transmitted down those far off ages.

In the preliminary arrangements for the formation of the Infantry company there occurred an incident which caused great division in the company, and came well nigh breaking up the organization. It was then toward the latter part of President Jackson's second term of office and political excitement was running high. Jackson had been chiefly noted during his administration for coercing the rebellious spirit of South Carolina into obedience, and for destroying the United States Bank. This administration had also been noted for being rather expensive in comparison with the preceding one under John Quincy Adams. The person who had been selected by the ladies to purchase the banner with an appropriate motto, was a staunch Adams man or Whig, as the party was called. He conceived the idea that patriotic principles might be represented on the banner even if there was a slight hint at the politics of the times. The yearly expense of the government under the Adams administration had been thirteen million dollars,

that of Jackson thirty-nine million. Upon one side of the banner was to be painted the portrait of Warren underneath the words "To die for ones' country is both sweet and honorable." Upon the other side of the banner it was to read "From 13 million to 39 million." The object of this was to show the contrast in the expense of the government under a Whig administration and under a Democratic. Luke R. Prince of Beverly, a celebrated painter, was engaged to do the work. The committee man kept his counsel and watched for the banner. In due time the beautiful silk banner came with the portrait of Warren painted on one side as directed, on the other side *no* 13 million to 39 appeared, but instead the picture of a donkey with stubborn disposition depicted on his countenance. Here was mischief. Who did this? Where did this work come from? was demanded by every member of the company. No one could explain, but there was suspicion that certain Democrats in the company were "in it." There was such discord that it appeared the company would disband at once. It was then but a few days to the time fixed for the formal ceremony of presenting the banner to the company. Arrangements were nearly completed, nearly two thousand dollars had been expended for uniforms and equipments, costing each member \$40, and the bright and glorious prospects of the company had apparently come to an end; but, in the midst of discord and confusion, a faint ray of light was allowed to break in on the darkness. From some unknown source came word that the motto on the banner originated from no member of the company. This changed the aspect of affairs. In their glow of patriotism no one wished to disband the company if it could be avoided. As the matter was explained they began to look on the affair as a huge joke. It finally settled down that the Democrats, or Locofocos, as they were called, were satisfied with the picture, as a donkey stood for firmness which trait in this animal they regarded as representing Jackson's character, while the Whigs said the picture was a fair resemblance of an ape, an animal which they regarded Jackson

resembled both in looks and character. In this construction of the matter the subject rested, every one enjoying his own conclusions.

Long time afterward it came to light that the inevitable clown in the drama of affairs in town, either secular or sacred, had put his foot into the subject. He had gained access to the painter of the banner in behalf of the committee for the purpose of making a change in the motto. It may be supposed the painter readily complied with the request, as he also was a Democrat or Locofoco. For prudent reasons it is thought best that the name of the chief conspirator in this affair be withheld till a certain event transpires, which, in the course of nature, sooner or later comes to all. Everything was now bustle and stir in preparation for the formal reception of the banner. The Boxford Washington Guards, William Low, commander, were invited to be present on the occasion. The celebrated Boston Brass Band, Joseph Green, leader, was engaged for the day. This was the band which was led at one time by the celebrated performer on the bugle, Ned Kendal, and later by Arthur Hall. Mr. Hall had a gold bugle presented to him as a compliment to his great merit as a performer on the bugle. This was before the gold basis excitement, other than what was caused by the gold in this rare instrument. The banner was to be presented to the company (with an appropriate address) by one of Topsfield's fairest daughters, Miss Sally Munday, who was chosen for this duty by the ladies of the town.

The mode of travelling long distances in those days was by stage. This occasion was two years previous to the opening of the railroad for travel between Boston and Salem. The Boston Brass Band therefore must come to Topsfield by stage. A stage ride from Boston to Topsfield was an adventure which few in these years would care to undertake. It was run or trot the horses all the distance up hill and down from start to finish. The relays between Boston and Newburyport were at Lynnfield and at Cumming's in Topsfield. The names of Mendon, Pinkham, Tuttle and Conant are

familiar to the older people whose memory goes back to those joyous days as the gallant stage drivers who passed daily over the Turnpike between Boston and Newburyport. The sensation they caused among the young people is remembered as they reined into town four in hand blowing their stage horns as the signal of approach. Great was the commotion at Cummings' on hearing the sound of the stage horn. The clattering of dishes and glasses; the delicious odor of rich viands and cordials betokened the bounteous table always to be found at Cummings' Hotel. This celebrated hostelry became the favorite resort of the Warren Blues on many a festive occasion in after years. It is remembered that a learned parrot lived for many years in the barroom at this place. When the parrot heard the sound of the stage horn he always gave notice to the trusty man of affairs in a loud, distinct voice, saying "Uncle Jones, stage coming" and to the faithful cook, "Granny Bowdoin, get dinner, stage coming." On the occasion of the presentation of the banner to the Warren Blues the extra stages which brought the band from Boston were to stop at the new Hotel kept by Captain William Munday. It was this Captain's daughter who was to deliver the address and present the banner to the new company. Captain Munday gained his commission in the government service as captain of a company of Cavalry. This company had then been sometime disbanded. The last time they met for choice of officers, which was at Newburyport, the company had dwindled down to so few in number that it took the whole company to fill the offices except one man. The officers took pity on the poor lone trooper and began to cast about to make him an officer. "Don't trouble yourselves," said Thomas Moore, the trooper's name, "I had rather be a whole company than one single officer."

Early on Thursday, the 27th of October, 1836, strangers began to gather into the little town nestled away among the hills where freedom had its birth, and soon a great multitude thronged the village. This was the day the Infantry company was to receive its banner; the place

appointed for the reception was on the compass in front of the Academy. The armory of the company was in the academy building. Early in the morning the company met at their armory, from whence they marched to the Boxford line and escorted the Boxford Washington Guards to the elegant mansion of their generous townsman, Asa Pingree, Esq., where they partook of a splendid collation. At two o'clock General Lowe, Major Stone, the two companies and invited guests dined at Captain Munday's Hotel. They were served with a most sumptuous dinner. These munificent tokens of respect, so politely and gratuitously tendered, excited the gratitude of all who partook of such liberal entertainment. After dinner the two companies, with the citizens joining, were escorted by the Brass Band to the grounds in front of the Academy. Miss Sally Munday, then coming forward and standing on the steps of the building arrayed in white, the flag in her right hand, addressed the company in these words:—

"Soldiers: It is with patriotic pride in the name of the ladies of Topsfield I present you this banner and bid you emulate the virtues and military talent of the undaunted Warren, whose name you have chosen. Should the Independence ever be endangered, which he and his associates gained for you, may you arm with the same zeal and conquer in the cause of freedom. Who among you will shrink from following this standard in defense of his country and his home? Who will refuse to make himself a supporter of the liberty so nobly gained by the heroes of the Revolution, and who, as the silken folds of this unstained pennant are cast to the free air of Heaven, will forget that God arms the hand and shields the heart of the patriot? In this faith may you ever be found amid the guardians which Heaven sends to protect the freedom of our happy land. May you never rally round this banner staff save in a rightful cause."

The address was given with that grace of manner and force of expression, which called forth the loud cheers of the people. After the response by the band, Captain Nathaniel Conant replied to the address

as follows :

"Madam: In the name of the Topsfield Warren Blues we gratefully accept and tender our most respectful acknowledgment to the ladies of Topsfield for this very beautiful standard. We hope the name we have selected for our corps will ever prompt us to deeds of valor, and that in the service of our country we shall always follow without shaming the immortal image borne upon this flag, and our homes, ever dear, will possess new and increased value from the manifestations which the ladies of Topsfield have been pleased to make to us in regard to our corps. We profess to train and prepare ourselves for the protection of virtue, the defense of liberty and independence, the security of our institutions, civil, literary and religious, relying for aid in such important duties upon a continuance of your favorable regards and the smiles of Heaven; and hope we shall be ready at all times to adopt the motto inscribed on our banner, "To die for one's country is both sweet and honorable." The address of Capt. Conant was also received with great applause.

After the banner was received. Capt. Conant placed it in the hand of William E. Kimball, who had been chosen bearer of the banner by the company. General Lowe then gave a sentiment in which he most happily alluded to the protection the ladies so justly merited from the soldiers and citizens of our happy and glorious Republic. In the evening the lovers of music were entertained at the hotel in the most pleasing manner by the performances of the band. There was also a grand ball that evening at Cummings'.

The day was fine and the whole exhibition was brilliant and gratifying. To be definite concerning the apparel of the fair orator for the occasion, her dress was white muslin, low neck, short sleeves, blue trimmings and long mitts. Not long after this eventful day Miss Munday was married to the Lieutenant of the company, Lemuel Holten Gould, whom it is said she captured on this occasion and held him her prisoner. Lieutenant Gould was afterward promoted captain of the company, Capt. Conant being promoted

Maj. of Brigade. We are indebted to the daughter of Mrs. Gould, Mrs. Ann Gould Ferguson, for a copy of the address. Many incidents of interest occurred during the day in connection with the celebration, but the space which is allotted for this paper will not permit us to make record. We shall therefore pass to a few of the prominent points of interest in connection with this company.

The music employed by the company for regular duty, or the company band so called, is of next importance to the company itself. This band was composed of seven members, called the McKenzie Band, part of the members belonging in West Ipswich or Firetown, so called, and part in Topsfield. The leader of the band, Alfred McKenzie, played B flat bugle. This was before the invention of the cornet of latter days. It appears by the scriptures there was an instrument that went by that name several thousand years ago. Addison McKenzie, a brother of Alfred, also played B flat bugle. Samuel McKenzie, brother, played trombone; Joseph Chapman, clarionet; William Spiller, fife; John B. Lake, son of Silas Lake who many years ago was a famous player on snare drum, played bass drum; and Ephraim Averill played on the snare drum. For a country band in those days it was considered good music. If the Boston brass band excelled in practice, the McKenzie band was not wanting in the knowledge of the theory of music. For genius and quaint originality of character, some of the members of this band were greatly distinguished. They were greatly liked by the Warren Blues and continued to be the company's band so long as they preserved their organization. Out of the seven members of the band, four are still living, all over eighty years of age, Ephraim Averill, Alfred McKenzie, Joseph Chapman and William Spiller. Out of the whole company, 36 when organized, five only are living. In contrast it speaks favorably for the profession of a musician so far as it pertains to length of days. Mr. Joseph Chapman, to whom I am indebted for much information concerning the band and company, is remarkably well preserved for a man of his age. In speaking with him a few days

ago of incidents in connection with the presentation of the flag, said he, "I think I can recall some of the first part of Miss Munday's address. Wasn't it something this way, 'Soldiers: It is with patriotic pride I present you this banner?'" These words were accurately remembered by Mr. Chapman after merely hearing them uttered nearly sixty years ago.

Incidents of interest which happened on training days are remembered by the old people and told with greater enjoyment. It was on the day of Brigade muster, which occurred in Top-field in the fall of 1839 or 1840. The field appropriated for this purpose was the land where now are the residences of Mrs. Herrick, Miss Ray and Frederick Merriam, extending back as far as the land of Mrs. Kimball's. From this place up to Captain Munday's Hotel, on that day the ground was covered with gambling tables, roulette, dice and other gambling inventions. The crowd that occupied these tables was chiefly from Boston. Money in great abundance was seen on the tables and rapidly changing hands from one to another. As it was exposed to public view it greatly annoyed the citizens of the town. In the afternoon, as soon as the companies were dismissed, a platoon of the Warren Blues was seen charging on the double quick in the direction of the gambling tables. In an instant, dice, roulette tables, money and all were overturned and rolling in a broken mass on the ground. The gamblers fled for their lives. This incident reflected great credit on the Warren Blues and made them respected by every citizen in the town. It was a custom, as has been observed, for the Warren Blues on training days to visit Cummins' Hotel situated upon the turnpike. It was a pleasant march there as there was a fine view at that place of the surrounding country. They were on their return on this particular occasion from this hospitable resort, when the old militia company, which was obliged by law to come out at May training, had formed on the common and were on the march towards the same resort which the Warren Blues had just visited. There was some feeling existing between the two companies caused partly by the contrast in the uniforms and equipage,

partly by the great crowd which followed the Infantry showing by this their partiality to the gay uniforms. On the level ground near the brook, where the two companies were to pass each other, was a large puddle of water which was caused by the recent rains and the formation of the road, which was made in that place to hold the water. Such a place is not a rare thing in these days. It was noticed before reaching the spot where they were to pass; a member of the militia company stepped from the ranks and took a stone from the wall and concealed it under his coat. When they were just opposite the water the man threw the stone with great force into the water, which splashed the mud and water over many of the gay uniforms. This brought out a rousing cheer from the militia. In conversing with an old lady, wife of one of the infantry, she says "you can't think how much work it cost us to keep those uniforms clean. Every time they trained," she said, "we had to remove the red stripe from the white trousers (she called them trousers,) as the red would mix in with the white if washed together, and we had to take off all the buttons from the coats to scour them. It was a deal of work, but," she said, "we wimmen enjoyed looking at the soldiers, all the same." There really was no personal feeling between the members of the two companies. The man who threw the stone that splashed the mud on the uniforms was one of the best friends of the Infantry. He, like many others of the militia, contributed generously to their support. He gave them on the occasion of their organization his peculiar sum, which he gave for special objects, \$33.33 1/3 and managed some way to make the change himself. He was no other than Asa Pingree, who entertained them so generously at his mansion on the occasion of the reception of their banner.

For want of time we can merely allude to the sham fight at the Brigade muster in Boxford, in the fall of 1838, which reflected great credit on the discipline of the Warren Blues, also their visit at Bunker Hill, 4th of July, 1842, on the occasion of celebrating the completion of Bunker Hill monument, Daniel Webster

delivering the oration. How long the organization continued we have no record. Independent companies received a bounty of five dollars a soldier. In 1845 they received the last bounties of which they have a record. About this time the law providing for this bounty was repealed and the company disbanded.

We now come to that part of the history of the company of chiefest importance. What mean the letters on that cap and knapsack, T. W. B., Topsfield Warren Blues? What did the name of Warren signify to that company? What does the name of Warren signify to us? In answer to this question we point to the Nation. There she is--behold her!

As we consider the many millions that have been affected by the name Warren, the increasing millions who are yet to follow, it is fitting to note if we are guided by the same compass that directed that great leader in the principles that laid the foundation of the Great Republic. In the library of the state department is a volume of manuscripts of great value. They are the original responses sent by the Massachusetts towns to the committee of correspondence, Samuel Adams, Joseph Warren and James Otis, who had asked the people to convene together and express their feelings and opinion in regard to the infringements of Parliament on the rights of the people, so that, in the answers returned, the collected wisdom and fortitude of the whole people might dictate measures for the rescue of their happy and glorious constitution." One of those papers is from Topsfield signed by Captain Samuel Smith, Captain John Boardman and Deacon John Gould, a committee chosen by the town to forward their answer.

We honor and revere the men of the Revolution for their bravery in the hour of battle, but their courage dates back to the principles which inspired them, the preparation for the coming event. The collected wisdom and fortitude of the people, as expressed through these papers from the different towns, inspired them with courage for the coming conflict. It laid the foundation of the first government of the people on the earth, created by the people and for the people. It was

sealed in the blood of the immortal Warren. Surrounding that great spirit are gathered a great multitude who have given their lives to defend the government that the Nation might live and not perish from the earth. As we dedicate this evening to the memory of our patriot fathers, it is fitting that we renew our vows of fidelity to the principles for which they gave their "*last, full measure of devotion.*"

ROSTER OF THE COMPANY.

	Commissioned
Capt. Nathaniel Conant	June 30, 1836
Capt. Lemuel H. Gould	Dec. 24, 1840
1st Lieut. Nathaniel Perley	June 30, 1836
1st Lieut. Joel Lake	Nov. 16, 1837
1st Lieut. Thos. P. Munday	Dec. 24, 1840
2d Lieut. Thos. P. Munday	May 27, 1840
2d Lieut. Thomas Gould	Dec. 24, 1840
3d Lieut. Thomas Gould	May 27, 1840
Ensign Joel Lake	June 30, 1836
Ensign Nehemiah Balch	Nov. 16, 1837
Surgeon Joseph C. Batchelder	
Surgeon's Mate, Joseph Lloyd Wellington	
Chaplain, Leonard B. Griffin	

Capt. Nat'l Conant was promoted Sept. 7, 1840, major and inspector of the 4th Brigade, Mass. Lt. Infantry.

Lieut. Nat'l. Perley was promoted major Aug. 8, 1837, Lieut. Col. Sept. 6, 1838, Colonel Mar. 27, 1839 and Brigadier General of the 4th Mass. Light Infantry Sept. 4, 1840.

ADAMS, BENJAMIN F. Came from N. H., was a farmer and shoemaker, built the house now owned by Levi Beal, removed to Reading, Mass., about 1875 and died there in 1888, aged 80.

ADAMS, BENJAMIN. Came from Middleton, Mass. was a shoemaker by trade, built the house now occupied by J. J. Hardy, was popularly known as "Little Ben." Died in Topsfield in 1849, aged 36.

ANDREWS, AARON A. Born in Topsfield, a butcher by trade and employed by T. P. Munday, enlisted in 23d Mass. Infantry, but was never mustered into the service. Died in Topsfield in 1877, aged 54.

- ATKINSON, WILLIAM D.** Came to Topsfield from Lynn, worked at his trade, house painting, for a short time and removed to Boston.
- AVERILL, AARON PERLEY.** Born in Topsfield, a shoemaker by trade, removed to Georgetown and died there in 1865, aged 55.
- BALCH, NEHEMIAH** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1884, aged 77. Was a shoe manufacturer, served the town as treasurer and assessor, was ensign of the company.
- BATCHELDER, JOSEPH CUMMINGS.** Came from Boxford, was an excellent physician, removed to Templeton, Mass. in 1850 after practicing medicine in Topsfield nearly fifteen years; he was the successor of Jeremiah Stone, M. D., who removed to Provincetown, Mass. in 1836. Dr. Batchelder built the house now owned and occupied by John Bailey; he was representative to the General Court in 1846, was the inventor of the boring machine that was used for a time while the Hoosac Tunnel was being constructed, proving at that time a partial failure, enlisted as surgeon in the 23d Mass. Vols., but saw little service, was surgeon of the company of "Blues."
- BASSETT, DAVID.** Came from Gloucester and learned the wheelwright's trade with Thomas K. Leach, removed to Beverly (?)
- BLAISDELL, JAMES.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1856, aged 32, a shoemaker by trade.
- BRACKETT, CHARLES C.** Came from Wolfboro, N. H., was a carpenter by trade and built many of the older houses now standing in town, also in 1848 the church at Linebrook parish. He lived in town about ten years removing to Ipswich in 1848 and afterwards to Quincy, Mass., where he died about 1880. Represented the town at the General Court in 1843.
- BRADSTREET, JOHN.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1847, aged 36, was a shoemaker, at one time living in Boxford.
- BRADSTREET, WILLIAM.** Born in Topsfield, a farmer, and is now living in Danvers.
- CHAPMAN, EDWARD A.** He was a cabinet maker by trade and also worked as a housepainter. Removed to Haverhill.
- CHAPMAN, JOHN K.** Came from Linebrook Parish, Ipswich, shoemaker and farmer. Is now living in Ipswich.
- CLARK, DAVID.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1880, aged 66. Farmer. Selectman for a number of years.
- CONANT, NATHANIEL.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1872, aged 76. Was captain of the "Blues" at their organization, afterwards being promoted to be major and brigade inspector of the 4th Brigade Mass. Light Infantry. He represented the town twice at the General Court, in 1854 and 1863.
- CROWELL, JOSIAH.** Came from Salem, was a shoemaker by trade. Died in Topsfield in 1889, aged 85.
- CURRIER, MOSES J.** Came from Enfield, N. H., was a clerk in F. & N. Perley's general store, and after living in town about three years removed to Danvers, where he died in 1892.
- DODGE, FRANCIS.** Lived in Hamilton, was a farmer.
- ELLIOT, CHARLES A.** Born in Topsfield, was a shoemaker and farmer. Removed to Danvers about 1855 and died there in 1895.
- GALLUP, WILLIAM PORTER.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1890, aged 80. Was a shoe bottom finisher, also engaged in the undertaking business for a number of years, built the house now occupied by his son W. W. Gallup, was sergeant in the company.
- GIFFORD, WILLIAM R.** Came from Salem, removed to the state of New York in 1843 or 4. Farmer.
- GOULD, ARIAL H.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1879, aged 61. Carried on a large butchering business, was selectman for a number of years.
- GOULD, CHARLES.** Born in Topsfield, shoemaker. Is still living.
- GOULD, EMERSON P.** Born in Topsfield. A schoolmaster in his younger days, afterwards learning the butchering business. Enlisted in the 48th Mass. Vols., and died in the hospital at

- Baton Rouge, La., June 5, 1863, aged 51, from the effects of an injury received in the slaughter house connected with the army headquarters.
- GOULD, JONATHAN PORTER.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1860, aged 46. Carried on a large butchering business.
- GOULD, JOSIAH L.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1880, aged 63. Was a farmer, built the house now owned by Horace Bradstreet.
- GOULD, LEMUEL HOLTON.** Born in Topsfield in 1809, farmer. Went to California in 1858, living there until his death at Sacramento in 1877. Was captain of the company succeeding Capt. Nathaniel Conant in 1840.
- GOULD, THOMAS.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1882, aged 75, was a farmer, superintendent of the almshouse for nearly 12 years, a selectman, and represented the town at the General Court in 1849. Served as 2d and 3d lieutenant of the company.
- GRIFFIN, LEONARD B.** A minister in the Methodist Episcopal church. Born in Connecticut, came to Topsfield from Gloucester, preached in Topsfield in 1840-1, a successful charge, twenty five joining the church while under his care. From Topsfield he went to Cambridgeport; was chaplain of the company.
- HOOD, JOHN GOULD.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1858, aged 51. Was an able school master in his younger days, afterwards a farmer and justice of the peace, also holding many offices in the town government. For a great many years he manufactured coffins, supplying Topsfield and the adjoining towns.
- HUBBARD, HUMPHREY GOULD.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1847, aged 40. Shoemaker.
- JANES, SAMUEL.** Born in Salem and died in Topsfield in 1873, aged 71. Was a shoemaker, afterwards engaging in the express business between Topsfield and Salem, carrying it on about ten years.
- KIMBALL, BENJAMIN.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1882, aged 80. Manufactured a high grade of boots: was town treasurer 1853-61.
- KIMBALL, WILLIAM E.** Born in Topsfield, carried on a blacksmithing business in his earlier days, but afterwards engaged in the grocery and East India goods business; died in Danvers, Nov., 1895, aged 91.
- LAKE, DAVID, JR.** Born in Topsfield. A farmer, but at one time carried on a shoe manufacturing business, became infected with the gold fever in 1852 and started for California by way of the Isthmus. Reached Panama in safety and with some seventy others chartered a small schooner and sailed for San Francisco. The vessel was insufficiently provisioned and nearly half of those on board died of starvation and found a watery grave. The survivors finally reached the California coast and after spending four years in the state Mr. Lake returned to Topsfield April 4, 1859. He started for California a second time and on the 28th died in the Pacific ocean on the upward voyage from Panama, aged 62.
- LAKE, ELEAZER, JR.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1867, aged 57. He was a farmer and shoemaker; was held in great repute as a hunter.
- LAKE, JOHN BROWN.** Born in Boston and died in Boxford in 1878, aged 61. Was a farmer and shoemaker. Started for California in 1852, reached Panama, but was unable to obtain passage for San Francisco and returned to Topsfield. Enlisted in the 23d Mass. Inf., was base drummer in McKenzie's band.
- LAKE, JOEL.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1860, aged 57. Shoe manufacturer and nurseryman.
- LAMSON, JOSIAH B.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1868, aged 53. Farmer.
- LANE, THOMAS L.** Born in Gloucester and died in Topsfield in 1856, aged 40. Was a boot and shoe manufacturer, selectman for many years.
- LEACH, THOMAS KIMBALL.** Came from Wenham and died in Topsfield in 1892, aged 77. Carried on a wheelwright business for 57 years.
- LEMONT, STEPHEN W.** Came from Litch-

- field, Me., and died in Topsfield in 1844 aged 27. Was a blacksmith.
- LEWIS, FREDERICK A.** Came from Salem: was a sailor by profession but worked at shoemaking, at one time sailed in coasting and fishing vessels. The Gloucester boat of which he was first mate was lost on the Grand Banks, not a man returning to tell the tale.
- LONG, HENRY.** Came from No. Andover, Mass., and died in Topsfield in 1871, aged 52. Blacksmith and stable keeper. He at one time trained with the Washington Guards of Boxford.
- MCKENZIE, ADDISON.** Born in Topsfield and died in Dover, N. H., in 1866, aged 44. He was a machinist by trade; played B flat bugle in McKenzie's band.
- MCKENZIE, ALFRED.** Born in Topsfield and is now living in Peabody. Shoe manufacturer. Leader of McKenzie's band, playing B flat bugle.
- MCKENZIE, CONSTANTINE.** Born in Topsfield, a carpenter by trade, went to California in 1852 and is now living in San Francisco.
- MCKENZIE, SAMUEL S.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1891, aged 81. Civil engineer and jeweller; selectman and representative to the General Court in 1852. Played trombone in McKenzie's band.
- MOORE, THOMAS.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1868, aged 66. Butcher. Was standard bearer of the company.
- MUNDAY, THOMAS P.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1862, aged 45. Carried on a large butchering business, was 1st and 2d lieutenant of the company.
- PEABODY, AUGUSTINE SIMONDS.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1884, aged 73. Was a school teacher, shoe cutter, and at one time engaged in the stock brokerage business in Boston. For nearly forty years he was superintendent of the Sunday school connected with the Congregational church. Served the town as selectman for nine years; was orderly sergeant of the company.
- PEABODY, FRANCIS DANA.** Born in Topsfield and died in Rowley in 1891, aged 75; bootmaker.
- PEABODY, THOMAS, JR.** Born in Topsfield and died in Georgetown in 1872, aged 47. Shoemaker. Enlisted in the 23d Mass. Vol.
- PEABODY, WILLIAM CUMMINGS.** Born in Topsfield and is now living in Georgetown. Shoemaker. At the present time (1895) is the oldest fireman living in Mass.
- PERKINS, AMOS, JR.** Born in Topsfield and died there in 1894, aged 84. Shoe manufacturer.
- PERKINS, NATHANIEL, JR.** Born in Wenham and died in Topsfield in 1846, aged 32. Farmer.
- PERKINS, NEHEMIAH, JR.** Born in Topsfield, died in Auburn, Me., in 1892, aged 71. Farmer and shoemaker.
- PERKINS, ROBERT SUMNER.** Born in Topsfield, school teacher, removed to Danvers and engaged in the soap business. Is still living in Danvers. Was sergeant in the company.
- PERLEY, HUMPHREY.** Born in Ipswich. Is now living in Boxford, farmer.
- PERLEY, JOHN, JR.** Born in Ipswich and was found dead in Topsfield in 1880 aged 76. Farmer.
- PERLEY JOHN FRANCIS, JR.** Born in Boxford and died in Topsfield in 1893, aged 69. Shoemaker and carpenter.
- PERLEY, NATHANIEL.** Born in Boxford died in Topsfield in 1864, aged 37. Carpenter and shoemaker.
- PERLEY, NATHANIEL.** Born in Topsfield and died in Boston in 1842, aged 43. Kept general and East India goods store, 1st lieutenant of the company at its organization, promoted through the various grades until Sept 4, 1840, he was commissioned Brigadier General of the 4th Brigade Mass. Light Infantry. Represented the town at the General Court in 1838.
- PERLEY, OSGOOD.** Born in Boxford and died in Topsfield in 1886, aged 71. Butcher.
- PHILLIPS, ANDREW JACKSON.** Born in Salem. Shoemaker and farmer. For a number of years sailed from New Bedford on whaling voyages, enlisted in 3d Mass. Hy. Arty. Now living in Linebrook Parish, Ipswich.
- PHILLIPS, JOHN.** Born in Topsfield. Farmer. Killed in 1840 by being

thrown from a horse. Was buried from the house of Joel Lake with military honors from the "Warren Blues."

POTTER, JOHN H. Born in Ipswich. Carpenter and house builder. Built a number of houses in Topsfield and is still living there, working at his trade. Represented the town at the General Court in 1881; selectman for a number of years.

SMALL, ISAIAH M. Came from Alton, N. H. Shoemaker and carpenter, constable for many years. Removed to New York state.

STILES, FREDERICK. Born in Middleton. Shoe manufacturer. Still living in Topsfield.

TAYLOR, TROWBRIDGE CURTIS. Born in Weymouth, Mass. Came to Topsfield from Linebrook Parish. Shoemaker. Enlisted in 23d Mass. Vols., as musician. Removed to Ipswich and died there in 1893.

TODD, JOHN. Born in Ipswich. Shoemaker and farmer. Died in Topsfield in 1865, aged 49.

TOWNE, BENJAMIN B. Born in Topsfield and died there in 1888, aged 75. Farmer and shoemaker; selectman 1854-6.

WAITT, WILLIAM Born in Topsfield and died there in 1888 aged 77. Shoemaker and expressman. Was blind the last years of his life.

WELLINGTON, JOSEPH LLOYD. Came from Templeton, Mass. Was a medical student, studying with Dr. Batchelder, his brother-in-law. Surgeon's Mate of the company.

WILDES, MOSES, 2d. Born in Topsfield died there in 1895, aged 84. Shoemaker.

WHIPPLE, JOHN S. Came from Hamilton. Butcher. Died in So. Tamworth, N. H., in 1883 aged 59.

WRIGHT, JAMES. Blacksmith. Removed to Lowell.



The Trial of Elizabeth Porter Bradstreet for the Crime of Arson.

BY MRS. THEODORE W. HAVEN.

"Stand still, my steed,
Let me review the scene
And summon from the shadowy Past
The forms that once have been."

Down the aisles of memory come trooping myriads of shadowy figures and fancies, ghostly remembrances of childhood's imaginative, dreamy hours.

Perhaps the first distinctive one is that of attending divine service in the meeting house, as it was generally called in those days. Now its more familiar appellation is the church. Clearly do I recall its external appearance of three decades ago. The vast area of its bare, white-washed walls, the hieroglyphic marks across their surface made by cracks in the plastering; the vivid impression of one of them back of the wing pews on the west side of the nave has never been effaced from memory's camera. It ascended and descended in regular lines like steps and somehow I associated it with the ladder ascending into Heaven, as narrated in the story of "Jacob's dream."

Well do I remember the rising of a gray haired man who used to sit in one of the east wing pews, during prayer service. I could never reconcile his standing up, while the rest of the men in the congregation remained seated. Often I wondered if it were a penalty for something he had done amiss. I have since learned it was a custom handed down from our "Puritan ancestors," a visible protest against the kneeling ceremony of the "Established Church." Doubtless his fathers from the third generation back had done likewise; his grand-children follow not the custom, for it has become obsolete.

Shall I forego mention of the preacher who occupied the pulpit whose words of exhortation, warning and prayer were heard from it for so many years and per-

chance find a responsive echo in the souls of some of my hearers? Indeed, no! In those days I had only a child's acquaintance with him, a feeling of awe and respect when he spoke to me, a sense of having been greatly honored if perchance he grasped my hand. In after years these emotions were only intensified by a more intimate acquaintance, a fuller appreciation of the grand, noble qualities of his mind and soul. Measured by the agnostic standards of today doubtless he would be reckoned as narrow in his theology, by the criticism of the "Andover heresy" as bigoted in his views, but by the measure "pure in heart," majestically he towers among his contemporaries and successors as well.

Deep set in the recesses of these childish memories is the picture of a woman's face, her form bowed by the infirmities of age; plainly I see her before me, "in my mind's eye;" even to the details of her costume, a "paisley" shawl, which she invariably wore, a black, embroidered, Spanish lace veil, always partially drawn over her face, are indelibly imprinted on its retina. There was something in that face which attracted my fancy. I know I must have inquired as regards its possessor, in my early years, for the outlines of her story seem almost a personal recollection. May it interest you, as it has me.

Backward I fling the curtain of time, which slowly, solemnly, unceasingly has dropped its folds around the actors of the event about to be narrated, shrouding within its unfolding embrace all of them. Fifty-eight years make wide ravages amongst the dwellers of earth. Death with a relentless sickle mercilessly cuts down his victims. The passing knell, mahap a shaft of marble, are the only tangible evidences of our having existed. He who serves well his day

and generation, haply has attained unto earth's highest good; to have served them ill, that man is cursed. The story opens with the account of a dire calamity, one of destruction engendered by that always to be dreaded foe, fire.

The Salem Gazette dated Oct. 17, 1836, contains the following paragraph: "On Monday morning a fire broke out on the premises of Mr. John Rea, Jr., in Topsfield, by which a tavern, large barn and store belonging to this gentleman were destroyed. We are informed by people who were on the spot that the fire originated in the barn, the contents of which, a large quantity of hay, grain, etc., two horses, several hogs, two chaises and two or three wagons, were destroyed. Considerable of the house furniture was consumed, also many other articles in the house, including a gold watch. Mr. Perley's store on the opposite side of the street was preserved with great difficulty. It is supposed that the fire was the work of an incendiary, as it was first discovered in a part of the barn not used as a tavern stable and into which no one had been known to carry a light. Mr. Rea was aroused at about one o'clock. The alarm reached Salem a little before 2. Two engines from Danvers and one from New Rowley (now Georgetown) were present. Loss, \$5,000. Insured, \$2,000."

The event of the fire was an exciting episode in the history of the village. Most of the inhabitants were in bed and asleep at the time it commenced. Mr. Chas. Gould had just retired to his home. He partially dressed, got on a horse and rode through the town giving the alarm. The tavern stood on the site of the store now occupied by Mr. C. I. Trowbridge, the store on the site of Mr. John Bailey's residence. There were no buildings on the same side of the street on the north from Wildes' corner but a blacksmith shop. South of the tavern was the new Samuel Gould house. Next to it stood the old S. Gould house, and from there none till the house of John G. Hood on the present corner of Main and Prospect streets. What to me seems remarkable is the fact that it is the only fire on the main street of the village

since it was first settled. May it be the last.

Of course the ever recurring question as regards the fire was: How was it set? Who did it? The property was insured for a large sum for those days, but there was a mortgage upon it, held by Hon. Ashael Huntington, which covered the full amount. Capt. Rea had recently failed in business, and the loss of his property by fire beggared him, so to speak. The topic was pretty generally canvassed by the townsfolk, as are local happenings at the present time. Many whispered suspicions which they dared not utter aloud. Mutterings of distrust against the Reas were heard on the horizon of public opinion, but none anticipated the terrific bolt nor its course in striking an unsuspecting, unprepared, unwarned victim.

A clipping from the Salem Gazette of Dec. 13, 1836, tells the story:—

CAPITAL CASE.

A magistrate's court was held last week at Topsfield before John W. Proctor, Esq. for the examination of Miss Elizabeth Porter Bradstreet, a maiden lady of a respectable family, on complaint made against her, charging her with the crime of arson, in setting fire to the dwelling-house and buildings of Capt. John Rea in Topsfield a few weeks since.

The Salem Gazette, dated Dec. 16, 1836, contains the following:—

By consent of the parties, and for reasons that were thought satisfactory, the time for the hearing in relation to the charge of setting fire to the buildings of Capt. John Rea in Topsfield on the 17th of the October last is postponed to Monday, Feb. 20, 1837.

Elizabeth Porter Bradstreet was house-keeper at the Rea tavern when it was burned, Capt. Rea its proprietor, being a widower. Before entering into the details of the trial, I wish to tell you of the ancestry and early life of the accused.

Her first ancestors in this country were Gov. Simon Bradstreet and his wife, Ann Dudley. John, their son, married Sarah Perkins. They had a son named Simon, who married Elizabeth

Capen, daughter of Parson Capen of this town. Their son John married Elizabeth Fiske and they had a son, Col. Dudley, who married Polly Porter, sister of my grand-mother Gould, daughter of Col. Joseph Porter of Danvers, a direct descendant of the John Porter who settled at Salem village, now Danvers, in 1634. To them was born on Jan 11, 1803, a daughter, Elizabeth Porter, the subject of this sketch. Thus she was of the sixth generation, in direct line of descent, from Gov. Simon Bradstreet and his wife, the "Lady Anne," the first poet of the new world. Elizabeth's mother died while she was very young, and being the eldest daughter, upon her shoulders devolved the task of keeping her father's house, looking after and supplying the wants of the younger children; because of this she had no chance to improve even the scanty school advantages of those early days. I have been told by one who heard her speak of her early life that she said "her father kept 20 cows which she helped to milk, took care of milk in the dairy, making butter and cheese." Her father kept large flocks of sheep, the wool of which she spun and helped weave into cloth for the clothing of the family. Flax was also raised on the farm. This she spun and wove into rifts of snowy linen. I recollect having heard an aunt of mine speak of the quantity of linen sheets which Elizabeth possessed, the work of her own hands in her younger years. For all these services rendered as her father's house-keeper she received the munificent sum of three shillings a week, \$26 a year.

Thus she grew up a steady, industrious woman, beloved by her family and respected by the townspeople. Her father in time took to himself a second wife, so that, her services not being required at home, she went away to work.

She was a member of the Congregational Church. At the time of her arrest, Rev. James McEwen, its pastor, rather than have her committed to jail during the time that must elapse before the hearing, gave his pledged word to the district attorney that he would guarantee

her appearance at the time designated.

The trial opened at the old hotel, on the turupike, Monday, Feb. 20th, 1837, before magistrates Proctor and Mack. Hon. Leverett Saltonstall was counsel for the accused, of whom it was said: "there is one honest lawyer in Salem." Hon. Ishael Huntington, district attorney, was for the commonwealth, himself a Topsfield boy. He lived a long and honorable life and was one of the great lights of the Essex bar.

The Reas were the accusers of Miss Bradstreet, basing their accusation on a letter, purporting to have been written by the accused, Oct. 10, 1836, to Capt. Rea in which she threatened "to burn his property unless he discontinued his attentions to Ann Sawyer." This Miss Sawyer, whom Capt. Rea afterward married, lived with her brother, John, who was a blacksmith, living in the L of the Wilde's house, carrying on his trade in the shop on the opposite corner.

One evening while Capt. Rea was calling upon Miss Sawyer a stone was thrown through one of the windows. They charged Miss Bradstreet, at the trial, with the perpetration of the deed, but it was not proven. One item of evidence offered to support the contents of the letter was that Miss Bradstreet had told a woman friend of her intention to win Capt. Rea. At a house where she was calling one day, several of her acquaintances were congregated and in the course of the conversation they chaffed her about Rea and jokingly she made the above reply.

At the time of the fire, of course, she was aroused with the rest of the inmates. The barn burning first, there was time to collect most of her belongings and she hastily placed them in a trunk which was carried out of the house by Edward Hood, a resident of the town. At this time he was paying particular attention to Miss Bradstreet, and he testified at the trial that it was "impossible for her to have set the fire, for he was in her company from 8 o'clock p. m. until the hands of the clock were perpendicular."

As I before stated, the trial commenced at the hotel, but the space there became

too limited and the court removed to the Academy building. Of course the great piece of evidence against her was the letter. It proved to have been written by her, the conclusions would inevitably be damaging to her cause.

During the examination of witnesses, one of her brothers was asked if he had in his possession any letter written by his sister Elizabeth. He replied, "No! she did not know how to write a letter, therefore I have never received any. The only specimen of her handwriting extant at the time of the trial was a miss-spelled, badly written note to her step-mother. Comparing it with the letter received by Rea it was obvious that the handwriting was totally dissimilar. So that the letter charge fell through.

The time of the trial occupied 10 days; really over 11 days, but the court adjourned over one sitting to attend the funeral services of Dr. Nehemiah Cleveland. One reason for its great length was the large number of witnesses put on the stand to testify in behalf of the accused as to her character, standing, etc. Two persons only are living, now, of that number. The Reas left no stone unturned that might possibly bear on some circumstance that would tend to criminate her.

At length came the final day of the hearing, which it was decided should be held in the meeting house, March 3d. The sun rose clear, the day was warm and bright. The court opened promptly at 9 o'clock a. m. A few minutes before the time Mrs. McEwen came down the broad aisle of the meeting house, followed by the accused. After her came the high sheriff. The party seated themselves in the minister's pew, which was on the left side of the pulpit. The judges and counsel for both sides occupied the elder's seat, which was the height of two steps above the rest of the pews, and directly in front of the pulpit, extending the entire length of the pulpit's platform. After prayer by Rev. James McEwen the court opened. The house filled rapidly. Every inch of standing room was filled. The galleries were packed with a sympathizing, expectant throng. Hon. Leverett Saltonstall

opened his plea for the prisoner. He spoke of her former reputation, her integrity of character. He summed up her domestic and industrious qualities, scouted at her love for Rea as being the incentive of the crime, and the improbability of such a woman concocting so nefarious a scheme. He pointed out the discrepancies in the handwriting of the letter and of the note I have before spoken of. He thought it hard that Capt. Rea should tell the story of Miss Bradstreet's infatuation for himself and that she should remain silent. The ignominy of so doing was utterly indescribable. The argument was continued for nearly four hours. He finally commended her to the "mercy of the worldly judges, and that of Almighty God, who knoweth the innocence of the crime whereof she is accused." He took his seat amidst profound silence. After a conference among the judges, the court crier announced that the court would adjourn until 2 o'clock p. m. Many of the audience remained in the meeting house over the entire intermission in order to obtain good seats for the afternoon session. The prisoner repaired to the home of the McEwens, at which place she had been staying since the time of her arrest.

The court came in at precisely 2 p. m. If the house was crowded in the morning, it was densely packed now, the crowd surging back on to its entrance steps. Hon. Ashael Huntington, district attorney for the commonwealth, commenced his charge to the judges, as follows: "I have no desire other than to do my duty. My feelings towards the community are friendly. The examination took place in this town by my desire. I consented that this lady might remain with her friends. I might have had her placed in jail, as always is done in cases of this kind. I have had no connection with Rea since the time of his failure, till 1836. Do not lose a mill in consequence of the destruction of this property. I respect the feelings of this community toward the accused. It may all be a delusion, a mistake. It is the duty of the magistrates to carefully weigh all evidence presented. I don't believe an

examination of this kind ever consumed so much time since the foundation of the government. I have only done my duty if I show on the part of the government that there is good reason to suspect the prisoner of being guilty of the crime imputed to her. I believe that the community admits that the fire commenced by design; any individual in the neighborhood might have done it as well as the prisoner had they a motive. I know that people of this town will weigh the truth candidly."

So he goes on. Says very little with regard to the letter, but makes a strong point out of Miss Bradstreet's love for Rea and her avowed intention to win him; summing up the points of evidence against her which notoriously were all given by persons of the name of Rea, or their family connections, excepting Ann Sawyer. His speech occupied over two hours' time. I have been told by one who heard it that "It was considered a masterly affair," prejudicing many against him, they thinking that he need not have made so great an effort to convict one of his own townspeople. Doubtless this fact made him the more strenuous in the performance of his legal duty. It was not Ashael Huntington, the man and fellow citizen who spoke, but Ashael Huntington, the district attorney. The case was given to the magistrates at 5.40 o'clock. They entered into a conference as to its merits and demerits, while the crowd waited expectantly for their verdict. A large number of strangers, young men, some 25 in number, were scattered throughout the audience. People wondered who they might be. It grew dark and the room was lighted, but no one stirred to leave the house. All were anxious to hear their decision. Finally the crier arose and stated that the decision would not be given out to the public till the next morning at 9 o'clock. It was a great disappointment to the waiting crowd, but they were obliged to submit. An arrangement was made whereby the result of the trial should be made known to the people at large. If the prisoner was convicted the church bell should be tolled, if acquitted it was to peal the

joyful tidings abroad. It was whispered about among the knowing ones, and the rumor had reached official ears, that those young strangers present were the ringleaders of a band which intended to make a forcible demonstration inside the meeting house after the delivery of the verdict. If favorable to Miss Bradstreet, one of joy, if against her, one of indignation. Some who knew of the weakness of the structure, asked the judges to withhold their decision on this account, fearing that some of its timbers might collapse under the great weight of the audience, and the extra strain of stamping and rapid moving about. It was an old building. Not long after it was removed, the present church building being dedicated in 1842.

The fateful morning came. One aged woman has told me "that in her home breakfast was ready at the usual hour, but no one could eat it. Her father walked the floor, while none of the family had any desire to engage in their usual occupations."

Crowds of people gathered on the common as the fateful hour drew nigh, waiting for the peal of the bell, discussing the pros and cons of the evidence of the trial and its probable outcome. A perceptible silence fell upon them as the time of waiting lessened into a minute's duration; when it lacked only a second, heart throbs were almost audible. "They rung the bell till they rocked the steeple." The rejoicing was universal. What must not its glad tidings have meant to the woman whose life had been in jeopardy these last ten days? We can imagine it like the awakening from a most horrible nightmare; as a delivery from an impending weight on its way to crush the very life from her soul and body.

Who set the fire is still a mystery. Who wrote the letter is another; doubtless they will always remain so.

In one of his sketches Hathorne elaborates the idea that "'tis not the deed alone that constitutes sin, but the thought as well." Someone in their thought deprived Elizabeth Porter Bradstreet of that gift bestowed upon her by the great Creator, life; hanged

her upon the gallows, condemned her to the most ignominious form of death bestowed upon criminals of the deepest dye. In God's sight they were "guilty

of murder in the first degree," with malice aforethought.

May He, in the wideness of His mercy, show pardon unto that guilty one.

A Sketch of Dr. Nehemiah Cleaveland.

BY CHARLES J. PEABODY.

In trying to collect material for this paper I have been impressed with the fact that, however deep may be the hold that a man gains on the men of his time, but few facts or traditions linger in the minds of a later generation. Hence much of value that I present may doubtless be well known, being obtained from books with which you are more familiar than myself.

The recalling, however, of the facts and incidents of such a life as that of Dr. Nehemiah Cleaveland must be of advantage, and will impress on us the great service that was done in former days by a man who was wise, strong and true.

Nehemiah Cleaveland was the youngest son of Rev. John Cleaveland of Ipswich, of whom it is said "he preached all the men of his Parish into the army of the Revolution and then went himself;" three of his sons were also in the army. Nehemiah at the age of 16 was an attendant on his father during the siege of Boston and afterward enlisted. He saw service at West Point and in New Jersey; he was also at Ticondoroga. After he left the army he worked on his father's farm and manifested the patience, courage and endurance that afterward distinguished him in increasing its productiveness and repairing the neglect caused by the absence during the war of its owner and his sons. At the age of 21, being disappointed in earlier hopes of a college education, he entered on the study of medicine with his brother at Byfield and later with Dr. Manning of Ipswich.

He began his career as a physician in Topsfield in 1783, taking the practice of Dr. Dexter, who owned and occupied the

farm afterward owned by Dr. Treadwell and now held by the Essex Agricultural Society. An ancient record says that at the auction of Dr. Dexter's personal property his medical library was purchased entire by Dr. Cleaveland; said library consisting of two books.

Soon after settling in Topsfield his practice extended to the surrounding towns, and his reputation as a consulting physician was established among other doctors as well as the people. In practice he is described as cautious and careful. He never undertook difficult surgical operations, but had a keen insight, a good memory, with the kind heart that gained the respect and esteem of the families among whom he was known as an adviser and guide in many matters outside medical practice.

He was Justice of the Peace, and in that capacity exerted a wide influence to promote good feeling among the people. An old man who remembered Dr. Cleaveland, told me that two boys detected in petty thieving were brought before him for trial. The Dr., who was a man of great dignity of manner and never familiar and easy even with friends, talked to the boys in a solemn way of the wickedness of their conduct, and then saying, "I will read the law to you," took the old family Bible and read in an impressive manner the commandments and part of a chapter in Leviticus; then turning to the trembling boys he said, "I will let you go this time, but if you do anything wrong again, beware—" The boys thus warned, reformed and justified the Doctor's faith in the old law.

In 1811 he was chosen to the state

senate, and though defeated, the next year he was re-elected in 1815, retaining the position till 1819, when he refused to be longer a candidate. During his connection with the senate the historian tells us "His good judgment, sound sense and solid worth were neither unappreciated nor unacknowledged."

In 1814 he was made a Session Justice of the Circuit Court of Common Pleas. From 1820 to 1822 he was Associate Justice of the Court of Sessions for Essex County. In 1823 he was appointed Chief Justice. This station, the duties of which he discharged with ability and firmness, he retained till 1828, when he retired from all public business, and for 9 years lived quietly at home, dying Feb. 26, 1837. In 1828 he received from Harvard University the honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine.

Dr. Cleaveland was nursed in the Puritan strictness of earlier times. His character, early formed and invigorated under the pressure of hardship and stern necessity amid the thrilling scenes of the Revolution, exhibited in his maturer years the strength and firmness which might be expected from such training. There was no effeminacy about him. He regulated his life with the closest regard to principle. If his strictness sometimes bordered on severity, his severity was of the wholesome kind. With all this his natural sensibilities were quick and tender.

In public affairs and political questions he took from his first entry into public life a lively interest. Of his political opinions his futurity will never feel ashamed, for they can say they were those of Hamilton, Jay and Washington. As a physician he was much esteemed by persons who had opportunity to learn his worth. He made, indeed, no pretensions to extensive medical lore—he attempted no difficult surgical operations. But he had what all the schools of medicine of themselves cannot supply, an observing mind, a retentive memory, a good judgment and a high sense of responsibility. Nor did he, like too many country physicians, neglect the reading of medical books and journals. His practice was always prudent and cautious, qualities

which young and ardent physicians are not apt sufficiently to admire. He was punctual in attending calls, and kind and cheerful in the sick room. He possessed in a high degree the qualities which ensure to a physician the confidence and attachment of his patients. But the country doctor finds many opportunities and calls to do good, for which the faculty, as such, give no prescriptions. Happy he who has the power and disposition to meet such calls.

He was twice married, first to Lucy Manning of Ipswich. She died four years afterward, without children. His second wife was the daughter of Dr. Elisha Lord of Connecticut. A family of nine children grew up around them.

After his retirement from public life he was well and usefully employed for the good of the church and community. The greatest service he rendered this town was the founding of the Academy. He is remembered by a few of the older people in Topsfield as one of the only three persons in town who took a newspaper, which in the Doctor's case was lent about the neighborhood until it came to pieces.

A vote of the Topsfield church to the effect "that the pastor shall be authorized to associate Dr. Cleaveland with himself in the examination of persons for the admission to the church in such cases as he may be in doubt about himself," well expresses the confidence the good people of that day felt in him. There is a tradition that one Sunday a stranger occupied the pulpit by exchange with the pastor. As the congregation were coming out at the close of the service, a good woman was asked "How did you like the minister?" "I don't know yet," she said, "I must ask Dr. Cleaveland and then I will tell you what I think."

Another story going to show that when the Doctor had made up his mind to do a thing in a certain way, he was not easily turned from it, as follows: A small school was kept in a room of his house for the education of his daughters and a few other girls in the neighborhood. It was taught by a woman, and at the close of the term an examination was held, open to the public. The Doctor arranged

the furniture for the occasion and put the seats for his daughters in front of the rest, much to their annoyance. "O father," they said, "we do not want to sit there with nothing in front of us." "Go put your aprons on and have something in front of you, if you wish," was the reply.

Dr. Cleaveland trained his children to be very self-reliant. An illustration of this is as follows: Late one evening a stranger came to his house and asked to be carried to Ipswich. The Doctor was willing to do so, but instead of going himself he called his eight years old son, William, who had gone to bed, to get up and take the stranger to Ipswich. The little fellow did so, and arrived home after a long, lonely ride a little after midnight.

The Boston Medical and Surgical Journal of June 1839 says of Dr. Cleaveland, "During the fifty years of his practice in Topsfield, few days, probably, passed when his opinion or assistance was not sought in some matter aside from his profession. There are few occurrences or questions incident to common life in regard to which he had not formed an opinion or could not give judicious advice."

Indeed the mere fact that through so long a series of years, confidence continued undiminished, the oracle being consulted to the very last, proves that the responses had not been found unsafe or fallacious. The happy influences of so long a course of beneficent action are not to be estimated. How many quarrels have been arrested, how many lawsuits prevented, how much needless expense and trouble saved, in a thousand instances by the timely and unfeared advice of a judicious and peace-making neighbor."

Dr. Cleaveland was president of the Eastern Stage company in 1796. He was chairman of the first meeting of the company. In 1806 he bought an interest in it.

The study of a life like that of Dr. Cleaveland brings to mind the question sometimes raised, "Were the prominent men of former days the superiors of all men today?" There is much to be said on each side of the argument.

It is at once evident that no man today

holds the relative position in Topsfield that Dr. Cleaveland filled. We are all aware that the minister in any parish is not now looked up to as was the case a hundred years ago. In town affairs a greater equality of influence prevails to-day than a generation since.

What, then, do these things prove? That there were giants in the earth in those days? Yea, verily. But has not the stature of the average man considerably increased mentally in two generations? Is there no significance in the fact that in Dr. Cleaveland's day only three papers were taken in Topsfield? And that his predecessor was able with only two books to solve all the intricate medical problems of his day? While with us every family has a treatise on medical practice, besides the abundant literature sown broadcast on matters of health and sanitary science by the prominent magazines and papers. Even the children in our common schools are instructed in physiology, while High school pupils are taught concerning germs, microbes and bacteria, to say nothing of the thousands of lives annually saved by Hood's Sarsaparilla, Green's Nervura and all the rest who uphold the health of the people at large. Even if it is true that in by far the larger number of cases they save life, as the small boy said a pin saved the life of a man, and when pressed for particulars, replied by his *not swallowing it*, yet as every one reads not only the local paper, but much on every subject of common interest, the effect must appear not only in greater general intelligence, but also in diminishing the distance between one man and another.

Many of us have noticed a single pine tree standing amid a growth of oak and maple. How it lifts itself above them! From what a distance it can be seen, sometimes a landmark for miles around. Yet, the height of the tree is relative only. Measure it, and in a forest of pines many will equal it. So is it with men. Were the great men of the past placed among us today, they would not be so prominent as in their own day. The average is rising in wisdom, in understanding, and let us hope in character also.

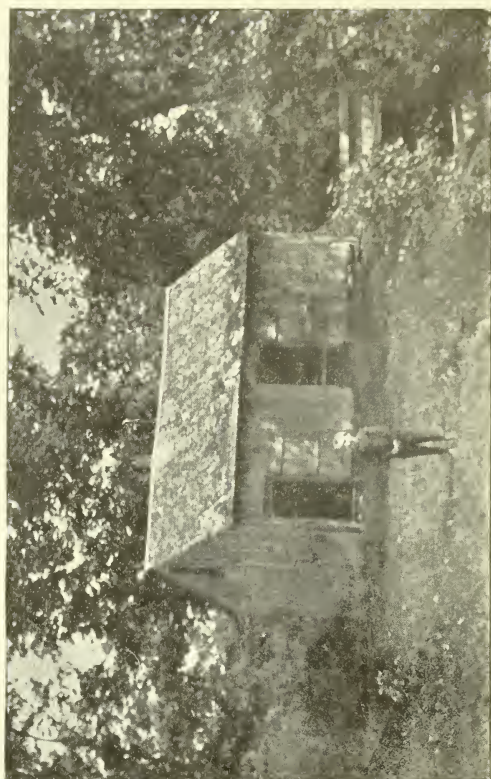
We can believe that the present time and not any past century is the Golden age. What, then, is the lesson which we shall learn from the life of him of whom I have spoken to you tonight? This: he was endeared to his neighbors by kindly service, and is held in lasting remembrance for his good deeds and peaceful influence.

For such efforts all time and all places afford abundant opportunity. Let us remember, when medical skill is forgotten and recollection of legislative service has passed away, personal character and pur-

ity of life will remain. Hark! then, to this parting message—

“Thou must be true thyself,
If thou the truth would teach;
It needs the influence of heart,
To give the lips full speech.
Think truly, and thy thought
Shall the world’s famous feed;
Speak truly, and each word of them,
Shall be a fruitful seed;
Live truly, and thy life shall be
A great and noble creed.”





FRANCIS PEABODY'S GRIST MILL.
Bennie B. Towne of the 8th generation in direct descent from Francis Peabody
is standing in the foreground.

Francis Peabody's Grist Mill.

By JOHN H. TOWNE.

In giving a history of the Peabody Mills of Topsfield, perhaps it would not be out of place at this time to give a short history of the man who conceived the idea of having them built.

By the records, Lieut. Francis Peabody was born in a small parish called St. Albans, Hertford County, England, in the year 1614. In 1635, at the early age of twenty-one years, having received a certificate of good character from the minister of his parish and been examined for emigration on April 6, 1635, he left his native country in the ship Planter, for the shores of New England.

After his arrival in this country it is thought by some that he lived a short time in what is now called the city of Lynn. In the following year 1636, by the records, he was living in Ipswich, in that part called Candlewood, where he continued to live until 1639. He then left Ipswich and moved to what is now Hampton, N. H., which he made his place of residence for eighteen years. During his stay there he was active and useful, serving the town for several years as one of its "Selected Men," so called.

He sold his house and land, situated near where the Baptist church now stands in Hampton, to Robert Drake of Exeter, for £76-13 S. and in 1657 he moved to Topsfield, Mass., where he also continued to make himself useful. Probably at that time he was the best experienced man in town affairs there was in the place, and the Topsfield commoners were not slow in finding it out. A few months after his arrival here he was chosen to serve both as Selectman and Town Clerk, which offices he held for a great many years, as our records show.

At a lawful town meeting of the town of Topsfield on the 4th of March, 1664, the town, by vote, gave "liberty to Lieut. Francis Peabody to set up a grist

mill and to flow so much of the town's common as is needful for a mill so long as the mill does stand and grind for the town."

Therefore having liberty from the town by vote of its inhabitants, the grist-mill was built by Lieut. Peabody the following year, according to a paper in my possession dated 1666, which says—

"Peabody's mill is a mill established by grant of ye Town in 1665, on a main from Pye Brook and Baker's Pond." In proof whereof we have from the town records—

"At a Lawfull Towne Meeting the 19th of March 1666—

Thomas perkins, Francis peabody and John Gould are Chosen to Vew and agree with Daniell Borman for a hie way between William Averie's house and the mill throw his ground as they shall see most Convenyant. - - - Voted." Thus it is shown conclusively that the mill was in existence in March, 1666.

Who can estimate the joy of the inhabitants at that early period of having a grist mill to accommodate them in the grinding of their rye and corn! It marked a new era in the history of the Topsfield commoners.

The mill was built on what was then called Pye Brook, running from what is now Lowe's Pond in Boxford and also from Baker's, afterwards Pritchard's, but what is now called Hood's Pond in Topsfield. This was the main stream, there being a lateral branch about a half mile above the mill running to Howlett's brook in the north east part of the town and concerning which, later on, there was great contention.

At a lawful town meeting the 7th of March, 1671, it was voted—"That the town is willing that Lieut. Peabody shall set up a saw mill provided it does not do damage to any of the townsmen in their meadows." The saw mill was built in 1672.

So far as I am able to learn, every.

thing pertaining to these mills went along smoothly until the year 1691. At this date, the business increasing on account of the growth of the surrounding district, there was not sufficient head of water during a part of the year to run the mills, the fall of water being slight between the lateral branch and the mills.

When the mill pond was half full, the water would be pressed back and turned down the lateral branch, there being quite a fall that way. As there was no mill at this time on Howlett's Brook, Mr. Peabody was granted the privilege of building a dam across this branch a few rods below its parting from the main stream, providing he pay satisfactory damages to the adjoining owners by reason of his flowing their meadows.

The records speak of damages being received the following year by Thomas Dorman and sons, who had in 1690 erected a house within a few rods of the parting of this brook.

By the way, this house was occupied for several years during the latter part of the 18th century by Asahel Smith, and here was born on July 12, 1771 his son Joseph, who was the father of the celebrated Joseph Smith, the noted founder of Mormonism in this country. The house, 185 years old, was torn down by Frank C. Frame in 1875 and another built on the same spot.

The amount said Dorman was to receive for damages on account of the dam being built was left by agreement to referees to decide, as follows—

"We whose names are underneath on Being chosen By Mr Francis Pabody and Thomas Dorman s^{nr} and his sons Thomas Dorman junr and Jesse Dorman to value what Damage the said Dormans shall Receive the Present years Begining the 9th day of February 1692: and Ending the 9th of February 1700: By Reason of the said mr Pabodys flowing the Water by a dam for his Corne mill.

We say that according to the Best of our judgments the said Dormans are Damnified twenty shillins in their Grass and for stoping their out Lett to the Comon, and ten shilins for want of convenient watering of their Cattle, as Wittness our hands at Topisfield July

the 5th 1692.

Jonathan Putnam
Joseph Byxba"

There was probably water power enough at the mills after the building of the dam as there are no papers showing the want of it for more than fifty years afterwards.

During the year 1698, after faithfully serving his day and generation, Lieut. Francis Peabody, the ancestor, passed away full of years and honors. By his will, dated Jan. 20, 1695, he gives his son, Isaac Peabody, the mills and mill-yard, the dwelling house by the mill and other property besides.

As Isaac Peabody owned the mills in Feb. 1700, when the old agreement made by Lieut. Peabody with Thomas Dorman on the flowage of land would expire, it became necessary for him to make further arrangements concerning it, which read as follows—

"This agreement made this 6th day of February 1700 Between Sargt Thomas Dorman on the one Part and Isaac Peabody on the other part witnesseth, that for future Love & Amity between them, the said Isaac Peabody shall pay or cause to be paid to the said Dorman thirty shillings a year in money ten years from the date hereof, provided he keeps his mill Dam up, which said thirty shillings is in full for all Damages said Dorman sustains by said Peabodys mill Dam, and further it is agreed upon that the said Peabody shall have free liberty to raise the water from the last of September to the first of April yearly as high as he needs for the use of the mill, which is to be done by a Sluise or Dam that now stands by the Bridge by said Dorman's New House which is on the brook that runs through said Dorman's meadow, And further it is agreed on that when Mr. Baker and said Dorman do send word to said Peabody together to lower the water for them that they may mow the meadow that is commonly flowed by the mill Dam the said Peabody is to lower the water such time as they may conveniently take off the Hay of said meadow. for the true performance of the above agreement we the aforesaid Sargt Dorman & Isaac Peabody do bind

ourselves our Heirs Executors Adm's and Assigns each to other fully and freely to fulfill the same as witness our hands & seals this 6th day of February 1700.

Thomas Dorman.

Isaac Peabody."

In 1710, arrangements were again made between Thomas Dorman and Isaac Peabody by which said Peabody was to pay said Dorman twenty shillings a year for damages.

On the 27th of December, 1715, Capt. Thomas Baker applied to the courts at Salem to have damages allowed him by reason of having his meadows flowed on account of the dam, but it was not at that time allowed.

The mills were run with more or less success until 1726, when Mr. Isaac Peabody died. By his will, dated Oct. 1, 1726, he gave his son, Joseph Peabody, as follows—

"I give unto my son, Joseph Peabody, my Grist and Saw Mills with all irons, wheels, stones, profits, privileges and appurtenances to said mills belonging, also the Dwelling House and barn standing near the Gristmill, the mill-yard, &c, &c."

The next year, 1727, Mr. Baker still demanding damages for injury done to his meadows, arrangements were made between him and Mr. Joseph Peabody by which he was to receive eighteen shillings a year. This sum was paid yearly to the Baker family for more than seventy years.

Up to 1736 the Peabody grist-mill was the only one in town, but during this year, Thomas Howlett built one in the north-eastern part of the town on Howlett's Brook, and three years after, in 1739 he also built a saw-mill.

Mr Peabody continued to run his mill, paying damages to Mr. Dorman and his successors in ownership, also to the Baker family yearly until his death, which occurred June 7, 1755. By his will, dated Nov. 12, 1753, he gave all his real estate to his only son, Jacob Peabody, with some conditions.

Jacob Peabody's ownership of the mills extended over a period of fifty-one years and it was during this time that there was so much litigation and trouble

between the owners of the Peabody and Howlett's, afterwards Hood's and then Hobb's mills.

In the summer of 1760, the old original grist-mill built by Lieut. Peabody was torn down and a new one built on the same spot, David Nelson being the builder. The millstones and some other things were put back into the new mill.

Mr. Nelson's bill reads as follows—

Topsfield, Dec. 20, 1760.

Received of Jacob Peabody ye sum of Fiftyfour Pounds Lawful money in full satisfaction for pulling down an old and building a new Grist-mill for said Peabody. Received, I say, by me, David Nelson.

In 1765 the old saw-mill was torn down and a new one built to take its place.

At this date, 1765, both of the mills being new, with plenty of water to run them, everything seemed in a flourishing condition, and so continued for several years. Then there began to be a lack of water power on account of the neglect to keep the dam across the lateral branch in good condition. In 1787, there was nothing left of the former dam but one stick of timber lying across the bed of said stream called a mud-sill.

In September of this year, supposing he had a right "in conformity with the grant of the town to Lieut. Peabody to build the dam," Jacob Peabody to some extent restored the dam. To this, Mr. Hobbs, the owner of the Howlett mill, made objection and proceeded to tear it down. The story is best told by the memorandum kept by Asahel Smith, who was living for the second time in the old Dorman house, and which reads as follows—

"September the 24th 1787 mr Jacob peabody Stopt the water at the mud-sill the first time—the 25th mr Benjn Hobbs cleared it as he told me—the 26th mr peabody Stopt it again as mv two sons Saml & Asael told me—the 27th of said month mr hobbs come & took the stop-age out myself & two sons Jesse & Joseph Being present and he told us he would take out as fast as peabody put in—mr peabody jurn Came the same Day and Began to Stop it again and I went

Down and forbid him using any of my property to Stop said Brook or coming any more there with that Design—october the 12th mr Jacob peabody junr stopt the Brook again the same Day mr Benj hobbs cleared it—November the 3d mr peabody & son & mr Saml Brown come & filed up the mouth of Hobbsses Stream at the Crotch of said Brook with Large Stones on Each Side to the Wedth of 2 feet & 5 inches and Raised the Bottom of said Brook about 5 inches from its usual Debth with flat Stones—November 5th me-srs Abraham Benjn & David hobbs & mr John Perkins junr came with 5 yoke of oxen and a Dragg to clear out the Stones again—I forbid them coming on to my land—Benjn hobbs Come to my house and Desired me to go with my two oldest sons with him and measure the Debth of water that Ran over the mud sill and Likewise the Debth of the Brook at the Crotch which I Did and we found the water that Ran over the mud sill 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ Inches Deepe and at the Crotch of said Brook in hobbs Stream it was Eleven Inches Deepe and further saith not

A Short memorandum
Asahel Smith"

Early in the year 1788, Jacob Peabody commenced an action of trespass against Abraham Hobbs for his digging out the brook and pulling down the dam, which was first erected in 1692 and most of the time maintained. "The suit was first brought before what was then called the 'Confession Act.' Mr. Hobbs appeared and disputed the demand."

Mr. Peabody had his case entered at the next court of Common Pleas for Essex County.

I have the depositions of ten aged persons who testified as to the condition of Pye Brook and its lateral branch at the parting thereof, and also to the fact of the existence of a dam across said branch as they remembered it fifty years before, or between the years 1720 and 1740. These depositions were signed and sworn to before Dr. Nehemiah Cleaveland, Justice of the Peace.

The names of these persons are as follows: Caleb Foster and Mrs. Mary

Potter of Ipswich; John Smith of Boxford, who lived with Jesse Dorman, son of Thomas, in 1723, when 16 years of age; Mrs. Hannah Chaplain of Rowley, who lived with William Rogers in 1734 in said Dorman house; John Perkins of Topsfield, who lived with said Rogers in 1736; John Averill of Westminster, Vt., who lived with Mr. Rogers in 1738; Nathaniel Hood of Topsfield, probable owner of the Howlett Mills from 1746 to 1748; also John Bradstreet, Simon Gould and Thomas Baker, all of Topsfield.

According to the testimony of these witnesses, the dam was built between two small hills about two rods above a bridge over the brook in the following manner.

"A stick of timber was laid across the bottom of the brook and two studs set up, one on each end, and tenanted into this stick of timber or mud-sill, so acled, and a cap-piece mortised on the top of these studs."

The case was tried in two courts and exceptions filed thereon. Mr. Peabody then decided to carry it to the Supreme court. Before the sitting of this court, however, the owners of these two mills, probably finding that the lawyers were getting more out of it than they were from their mills, consulted together and decided to submit the case to the determination of referees. These referees, Nathaniel Lovejoy Esq., Mr. Moody Bridges and Captain Peter Osgood, viewed the premises and decided as follows:—

"At the beginning of that branch of said Pye Brook which runs to said Peabody's mill, at the parting of said brook, suitable stones shall be laid in lime mortar in such a manner as to confine the channel of said branch within the compass of five feet, and this shall be done by the said Peabody, his heirs and assigns, at his and their expense within one year from the date of this report.

And at the beginning of the other branch of said brook which flows from Pye Brook through Howlett's Brook so called, being a branch of said Pye Brook to the said Hobb's grist-mill,

suitable stones shall in like manner be laid in lime mortar so as to confue the channel of said branch within the compass of three feet, and this shall be done by the said Hobbs, his heirs and assigns, at his and their expense within one year from the date of this report.

And we do further report that each and both of the said parties, their respective heirs and assigns, may at any time hereafter remove any obstructions that may be in their respective branches of said brook at any place therein, saving, that the said Hobbs, his heirs and assigns, may not at any time remove or cause to be removed a certain mud-sill, lying in and across the branch of said brook running to the said Hobb's grist-mill, about two rods above a bridge over the brook on the road facing by Asahel Smith's dwelling house and where a dam was formerly made, and that he, his heirs and assigns, shall forever keep and maintain a sill or bar in that place in the same situation it now is, never to be sunk lower, nor shall he or they make any alteration in the bed or bottom of said brook by digging or lowering it from its present state from the parting of said brook to the aforesaid mud-sill.

Neither shall the said Peabody, nor his heirs and assigns, make any alteration in the bed or bottom of that branch of said brook, running to his said mill, within five rods of the said parting of said brook. Given under our hands this thirtieth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred eighty eight.

Nathaniel Lovejoy }
Moody Bridges } Referees.
Peter Osgood }

Accepted by the Court Apr. 1789.

Although more than a century has passed since this occurred yet it remains the same today.

It is a somewhat singular fact that after all the contention and strife between the owners of these mills, the proprietor of the Hobb's mill today, Mr. Wellington Donaldson, is a lineal descendant of Francis Peabody, the ancestor.

In 1801, Joseph and John Batchelder,

owners of the Captain Thomas Baker farm at this date, brought suit against Jacob Peabody for the flowing of their meadows. The case was tried on the second Tuesday of November, 1801, at the Supreme Judicial court holden at Salem and they were awarded \$10.00 by the court for past damages, also said Peabody and his successors in ownership of the mills were to pay three dollars per year for damages in the future. This amount was paid every year until 1870, when it was stopped.

Jacob Peabody died Nov. 25, 1806 and by his will dated Feb. 16, 1804, he gave the mills with other property to his two sons, Jacob and John P. Peabody, in equal shares. These two brothers continued to run the mills up to the summer of 1824.

The grist mill at this time being very much out of repair, needing a new water-wheel, a set of mill stones, a new flume and several other things, it was thought best to tear it down and build anew. This was done in August and the new one, built on the same spot, was raised on Sept. 25, 1824. The work was done by Ezra Dodge and others from Beverly.

John P. Peabody took one half of the old original mill-stone for a door step, in which capacity it has served to the present day. The new mill-stones, weighing over three tons, were brought from Lynn, as the following bill will testify :—

Topsfield, Oct. 9, 1824.

John P. Peabody to Nehemiah Perkins Dr.

To myself and two yoke of oxen to Lynn to draw the millstones for the new mill.

\$1.17

Rec'd Payment,
Nehemiah Perkins.

The cost of the new mill was \$452.06. The mills were run by the said brothers until Feb. 14, 1829, up to which date they had been in the Peabody name for 164 years.

Now there happened an unusual occurrence, as the first change was made in the name of the owners. Jacob Peabody sold his farm and undivided half of the mills to Hon. Nathan Dane of Beverly, the deed being dated Feb. 14, 1829. Mr. Dane transferred the same to

Samuel Bradstreet and Samuel Gould in common, June 16, 1831.

April 12, 1838, Samuel Bradstreet sold out his one fourth interest to Samuel Gould, who in turn sold out his one half interest of the mills to Jacob Towne, Sept. 14, 1841.

Widow Sophia Towne, as administratrix of the estate of Jacob Towne, conveyed to their son, J. Waldo Towne, this one half interest of the mills, April 2, 1845.

During all these years since Jacob Peabody in Feb. 14, 1829 had sold out half of the mills, John P. Peabody had continued running them, paying rent to the different owners of the undivided half sold by his brother Jacob.

In 1842, the old saw mill was taken down by Alfred P. Towne and used for firewood.

Considerable business must have been done at this mill as shown by the "Book of Accounts" which, over a century old, I still have in my possession. I also have an old saw taken from the mill in 1792.

On Nov. 1, 1843 John P. Peabody sold his farm and his one half of the mill to his son-in-law, Benjamin B. Towne. At this date, one half of the mill had been in the Peabody name 178 years.

In 1846, the old Peabody House by the mill was torn down by A. Porter Kneeland and others. I was present on that occasion with many of the neighbors.

Some of the boards and timbers taken from this old house were used in the construction of the house erected near this spot by J. Waldo Towne in 1847. The house is now owned by George F. Pevear.

The mill was run by Benjamin B. and J. Waldo Towne until April 10, 1848, when they sold out to John McKenzie.

During his ownership, being a wheelwright, he made extensive repairs. The old reversible water-wheel, 16 feet in diameter, was taken out in 1850 and a new circular tub-wheel put in.

When putting in a foundation for this new wheel, Mr. McKenzie found an old Pine-tree shilling. This ancient coin was afterwards purchased by Dea. Joel R. Peabody and with some appropriate

verses on the same written by Mrs. Peabody, his wife, was sent as a present to George Peabody, the eminent banker of London, England. Mrs. Peabody received in return a present of a silver pitcher lined with gold.

In 1851, after making many repairs, Mr. McKenzie put in a corn cracker, for up to this time only clear grain had been ground. The putting in of this cracker marked a new epoch in the history of the mill. Not much corn was shelled after this as the great call seemed to be for corn-and cob meal.

Mr. McKenzie's health beginning to fail, he was assisted in his work by his son-in-law, John Boardman, Junior. The mill was run with good success until Aug. 1, 1854, when being still in poor health, Mr. McKenzie sold out to his son, Alfred McKenzie. As he was living in Danvers at the time he let out the mill on shares to Benjamin B. Towne, who ran it continuously with the assistance of George W. Brown, until April 1, 1870.

During this time the principal repairs were made in 1857, when a new flume and bridge were put in at the cost of \$117.00.

The passing of the mill property from the McKenzies into other hands was probably hastened by the following incident.

Mr. William Locke owned the property adjoining the mill lot and desiring to make some improvements in front of his house and near the brook, he commenced to build a wall around a spring which was by the side of the brook.

While working on the same one pleasant afternoon in October, 1869, one of the McKenzie heirs happened to come along and asked the question, "On whose land are you building your wall, Mr. Locke?" He replied in an indifferent manner as if he did not care, but it seems he afterwards looked at the deed of his place and found he was trespassing upon mill property.

Desiring to go on with his improvements, he began at once to negotiate for the purchase of the mill property, which was finally consummated March 19, 1870. Mr. Locke made some repairs

to the mill, putting on a new rim to the water wheel and also substituting iron floats to the wheel in place of wooden ones.

During the first part of Mr. Locke's ownership, it was run by David Smith and B. Austin Perkins, and then by Mr. Locke himself until July 17, 1873, when he sold his place with mill property to John B. Perry of Somerville.

Mr. Perry ran the mill with some success until he sold it to Mrs. Licenetta Ham of Wakefield, Aug. 19, 1875. During her ownership it was run by John B. Perry, Jr.

Mrs. Ham sold out to Mrs. Catharine Hanford of Lexington, Jan. 4, 1876. It was run during her ownership by her son, Clarence C. Hanford, who made some repairs on the same.

On the 27th of June, 1883, Mrs. Hanford's interest in the mill property was sold to Leon F. Chamecin of Boston, and on the second day of October, the same year, 1883, he sold out to Mrs. Teresa C. Carr, the present owner. The mill has not been run since 1892.

The most successful period of the mill's history was probably from 1851, the time of putting in the corn-cracker, to 1875, for during the civil war and for some years afterwards, grain was very high, often bringing two dollars per bushel.

Many amusing incidents could be related in connection with this mill. Some people would come to the house and say in rather pleading tones, "I want to go to mill." Others would say, "I have come to get some meal ground." My parents have often spoken of a gentleman who occasionally came to mill from the Linebrook Parish. He generally drove in a two-wheel shay and when coming down the turnpike hill by our grove he would begin to cry out in stentorian tones, "Where is the miller?" "Where is the miller?" and he would keep it up more or less until he had

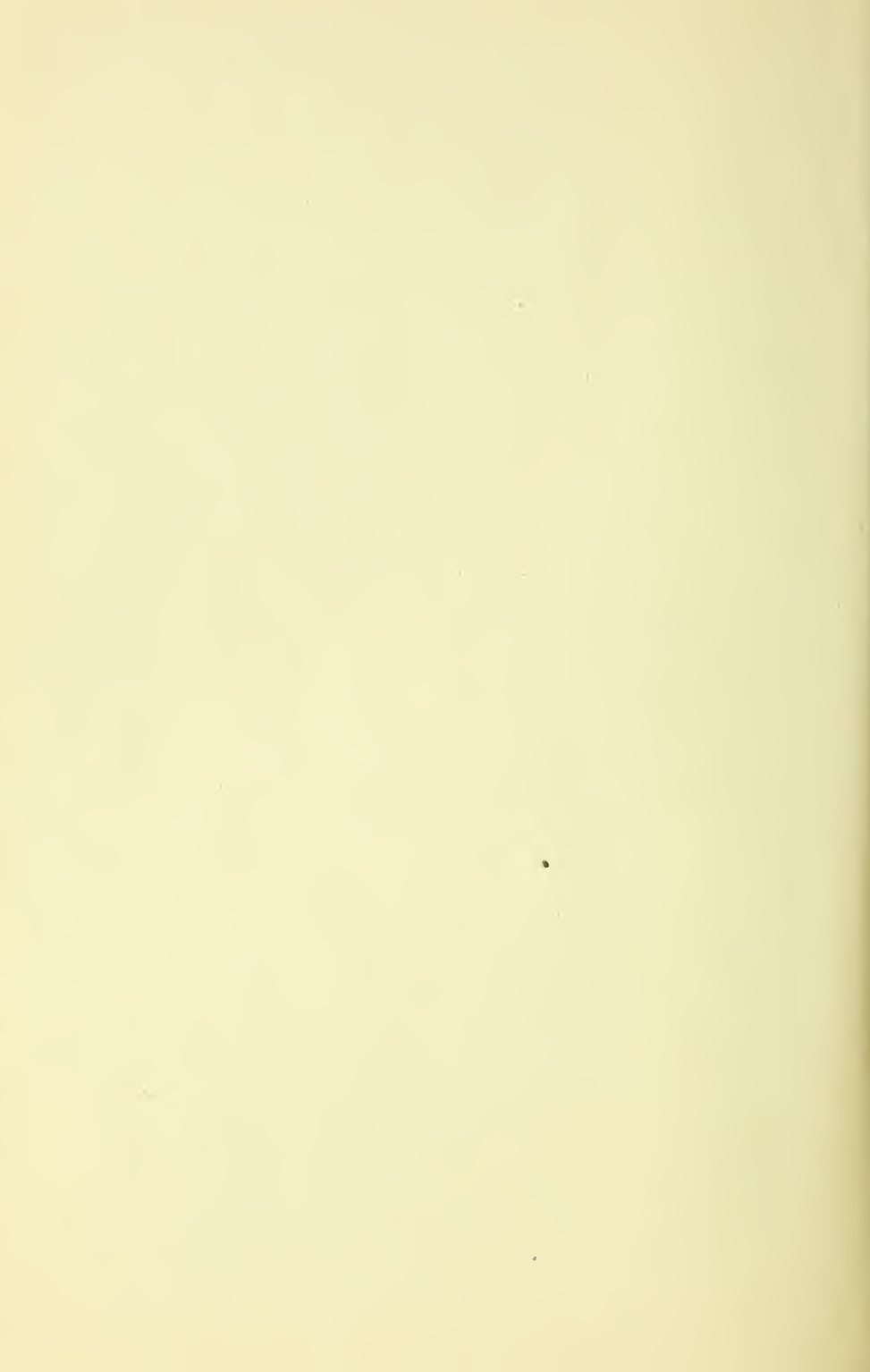
arrived opposite the miller's house. If the miller was within an eighth of a mile of the scene of action he would be almost sure to hear the cry. Evidently the gentleman disliked to get out of his shay to call at the house for the miller.

The old mill stands today in quiet repose. No busy sound is heard save that of the ceaseless flow of the running brook, bringing to mind the truthful words of Tennyson:—

"For men may come and men may go,
But I go on forever."

Let us contemplate the scene and ask the question, "Where in this town is there another landmark around which cluster so many memories of the past, and where another spot on which a building has stood every year since 1665, or within forty-five years of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers?" And a few rods from this mill is the old historic spot where, in 1660, dwelt the only family in America by the name of Peabody, whose descendants today are numbered by the thousands.

Now, in conclusion, I will say that notwithstanding I have over seventy papers referring to these mills, some of which are more than two centuries old, handed down to me through six generations, or from Lieut. Francis Peabody, the ancestor, I have been very careful to give the subject due consideration in regard to facts and dates, thinking that this will probably be the only history that will ever be written of the old Peabody mills. One of them has been gone for more than half a century, and the other, unless repaired, will soon be a thing of the past, and these ancient landmarks will be obliterated forever, for it is not probable that the grist-mill will ever be rebuilt again, although the water power may be utilized for some other purposes in the long distant future.



BAPTISMAL RECORDS

OF THE

CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD

COMMUNICATED BY

GEO. FRS. DOW.

SALEM, MASS.

AYLWARD & HUNTRESS, PRINTERS.

The Salem Press.

1895.

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD, 1727-1779.

COMMUNICATED BY GEO. FRIS. DOW.

A List of most of y^e children y^t were baptized by several ministers of y^e Gospell during y^e vacancy in y^e church of Topsfield, y^t is after the Death of y^e Rev. M^r Joseph Capen, untill y^e ordination of M^r John Emerson his successor.

The Rev. M^r Putnam, Pastor of a church in Reading, baptized

Joseph Towne	his Sarah	Feb'y 26, 1726-7.
Samuell Smith	" Susanna	" "
Samuell Howlet	" William	" "
David Redington	" Sarah	" "
Robert Perkins	" Rebeckah	" "
Samuell Bradstreet	" Sarah	" "
Samuell Curtice	" Mary	" "
Jacob Reddington	" Daniel	" "
Gideon Towne	" Hannah	" "

2 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

The Rev. Mr Prescott, of Salem, baptized

Samuell Towne	his Samuell	Aug. 27, 1727.
Francis Peabody	" Isaac	" "
Joseph Commins	" Moses	" "
Nathan Towne	" Amee	" "

y^e Rev. Mr. Wigglesworth, of Ipswich Hamlet, baptized

Mark How	his Luce	Feb'y 25, 1727-8.
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y^e Rev. Mr. Clark, of Salem village

Timothy Perkins	his Rebeckah	March 10, 1727-8.
John Wilds	" Amos	" "
Jonathan Perkins	" Hannah	" "
Richard Towne	" Thomas	" "

The Rev. Mr. Rogers, of Boxford

Jacob Perkins	his Abigail	March 31, 1728.
Aaron Estey	" Hannah	" "

The Rev. Mr. Prescott, of Salem

Daniel Towne	his Dorothy	April 14, 1728.
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The Rev. Mr. Emerson, of Malden baptized

Benjamin Towne	his Jacob }	twins	June 9, 1728.
" "	" Joseph }		
Samuell Curtice	" Samuell	" "	" "
Samuell Perkins	" Margaret	" "	" "

The Rev. Mr. Rogers, of Boxford, baptized

Daniel Redington	his Sarah	June 23, 1728.
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The Rev. Mr. Wigglesworth, of Ipswich Hamlett

Samuell Robinson	his Hannah	August 18, 1723.
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The Rev. Mr. Rogers, of Boxford, baptized

Tobijah Perkins	his Annah	November 10, 1728.
John Abbot	" Elizabeth	" "

The Rev. Mr. Robert Ward, of Wenham, baptized

Matthew Peabody	his Ebenezer	October 1, 1727.
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Joseph y^e son of Simon and Elizabeth Bradstreet was baptized June 25, 172[7] by y^e Rev. Mr. Robert Ward of Wenham.

The Church of CHRIST in Topsfield having made choice of Mr. John Emerson to be their Pastor sent Letters to Eight Churches to come and afford their assistance by y^r Elders & messengers in ordaining of him to y^e office of a Pastor over y^m in y^e Lord. accordingly on y^e 27th Day of Nov^{br} 1728 came y^e Rev : Mr. John & Nathan^l Rogers Pastors of y^e first church of CHRIST in Ipswich with their Delegates. The Rev^d Mr. John Rogers of Boxford. The Rev^d Mr. Joseph Emerson of Malden. The Rev^d Mr. Sam^l Wigglesworth of Ipswich Hamlett. The Rev^d Mr. Peter Clark of Salem village and The Rev^d Mr. Robert Ward of Wenham wth their Delegates.

The solemnity began wth Prayer, Mr. Wigglesworth was y^e mouth of y^e Congregation.

Mr. Emerson of Malden preached from Mat. 4 : 21-22. *And going on from thence He saw other two Brethren, James y^e son of Zebedee & John his Brother, and He called y^m, and they immediately left y^e ship & y^r Father and followed Him.*

Mr. John Rogers Sen^r. Pastor of y^e first chh : of Ipswich gave y^e Charge.

Mr. John Rogers of Boxford gave y^e right Hand of Fellowship.

Mr. Ward of Wenham prayed afterwards, a suitable psalm was yⁿ sung, y^e Blessing given and y^e solemnity Concluded.

Simon Bradstreet	his Mercy	Decem ^{br} 8, 1728.
William Kittery	“ William	“ 22,
Abraham Foster	“ Amos	“ “
Luke Avery	“ Ruth	“ “

4 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Jacob Pearody	his Elizabeth	Decem ^{br}	29, 1728.
Abraham How	" Elizabeth	"	"
Matthew Peabody	" Mehetabell	"	"
Joseph Perkins	" Dorkas	January	5, 1729.
Simon Bradstreet		February	23,
Zacheus Perkins and		"	"
William Perkins, these upon their own account			
being of adult Age,		"	"
also y ^e children of			
Thomas & Mary Demcy their Mary		"	"
" " "	" Thomas	"	"
" " "	" Miriam	"	"
" " "	" Charles	"	"
Richard Town	his Mary	March	2,
Timothy Perkins	" Timothy	"	16,
Joseph Robinson	" Joseph	"	"
Robert Perkins	" Robert	"	"
Samuell Howlet	" Dan	"	"
Joseph Gould	" Daniel	"	30,
Sam ^l Bradstreet	" Sam ^l	"	"
Jacob Averell	" Jacob	"	"
Joseph Towne	" Jonathan	April	20,
Joseph Towne Jun ^r	" Jemima	"	"
David Cummins	" David	"	"
Mark Howe	" Mary	May	4,
John Gould	" Jacob	"	11,
Jacob Reddington	" Jacob	"	25,
John Prichard	" Paul	June	8,
Francis Peabody	" Daniel	"	"
Ephraim Smith	" Mary	"	"
John Cummings	" Sarah	"	"
Eliezer Lake	" Daniel	July	6,
John Wilds	" Mary	"	27,
Jonathan Wilds	" Nathanael	"	"
John Perkins Jun ^r	" Stephen	"	"
Daniel Towne	" Thomas	August	24.
Micall Dwinell	" Thomas	September	7,
Nathan Towne	" Esau	"	28,
Michall Coffeen	" John	November	23,
" "	" Michall	"	"
Philip Towne	" Enos	December	7,
Josiah Kenney	" Mary	February	1, 1730.
John Towne Jun ^r	" Icabod	"	15,
Miall Coffee	" Robert	"	"

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 5

Daniel Reddington	his Dorcas	March	15, 1730
Jonathan Perkins	" Jonathan	"	"
The widow Ann Averell		"	22,
Jacob Perkins	" Prudence	April	19,
John Bradstreet	" Sarah	May	17,
Timothy Perkins	" Nathan	June	7,
Joseph Towne Jun ^r	" Archelaus	"	"
Joseph Dwinell	" George	"	28,
" "	" Joseph	"	"
" "	" Martha	"	"
" "	" Mary	"	"
" "	" Zechariah	"	"
" "	" James	"	"
John Towne	" John	July	5,
George Cowan	" Elizabeth	"	"
Margaret Perkins	her Jemima	"	"
John Prichard	his Sarah	"	19,
Luke Averell	" Mary	August	9,
Nathan Bixby	" Nathan	"	23,
Aaron Estey	" Mary	"	"
Israel Towne	" Elizabeth	"	"
Matthew Peabody	" John	September	13,
Elizabeth, y ^e daughter of John and Elizabeth Emerson		"	20,
Thomas Potter	his Sarah	"	"
Joseph Peabody	" Joseph	October	4,
Gideon Towne	" Pheebe	"	"
Thomas Baker	" Thomas	"	25,
John Johnston	" Mary	"	"
Jacob Averell	" Daniel	December	6,
Nathan ⁿ Porter Jun ^r	" Daniel	January	24, 1731.
Joseph Perkins	" Mercy	"	31,
John Abbot	" Martha	February	14,
William Reddington	" Jonathan	"	"
David Commings	" Jonathan	March	21,
Israel Clark,	" Elijah	"	28,
Tobijah Perkins	" Daniel & }	twins April	18,
" "	" Edmund		
Benjamin Towne	" Eli	"	"
Robert Perkins	" Amos	"	"
Samuel Perkins	" Samuel	"	"
Mark How	" Aaron	May	16,
Simon Braudstreet	" Mary	"	23,
William Meclure	" James	June	13,

6 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Sam ^l Curtice	his Noah	June	27, 1731.
Andrew Delrymple	" Mary	"	"
Micall Dwinell	" Sam ^l	July	18,
Jacob Clark	" Bathsheba	"	"
Joseph Robinson	" Joseph	August	1,
Sam ^l Braudstreet	" Elijah	"	29,
John Prichard	" David	"	"
Jabez Towne	" Jabez	"	"
Hannah Bowery	her Hannah	September	5,
Stephen Johnson	his Ruth	"	12,
John Peabody	" Jacob	December	19,
John, y ^e son of John &	Elizabeth Emerson	"	26,
Joseph Gould	his Elizabeth	"	"
Thomas Perkins	" Enoch	"	"
Nathan Whood	" William	January	29, 1732.
Jacob Dorman	" Jacob	February	6,
Jacob Perkins	" Jacob	"	13,
Richard Towne	" Elizabeth	"	"
Joseph Towne Jun ^r	" Jemima	"	"
Jacob Averell	" Dorothy	"	27,
Israel Towne	" Thomas	"	"
David Connings	" Sam ^l	March	5,
Timothy Perkins	" Elizabeth	April	23,
Israel Clark	" Israel	"	"
Ephraim Wildes	" Thomas	June	4,
Sam ^l Howlett	" John	"	11,
Jacob Reddington	" Dorcas	"	"
Aaron Estey	" Isaac	"	25,
Jonathan Perkins	" Juda	July	2,
Thomas Gould Jun ^r	" Thomas	"	23,
Gideon Towne	" Abisha	August	13,
Daniel Gould	" Ruth	"	"
Mehetabell Dodge	her Sam ^l	"	20,
Will ^m Perkins Jun ^r	his Will ^m	September	24,
Dan Clark	" Mary	October	8,
Josiah Kenney	" Asa	"	"
John Gould	" Esther	"	15,
Nathan Bixby	" Solomon	"	29,
Joseph Perkins	" Icabod	December	10,
John Perkins	" Moses	January	7, 1733.
Thomas Howlet	" Alice	"	"
John Towne Jun ^r	" William	"	21,
Luke Averell	" Moses	February	4,
Robert Perkins	" Phebee	"	"

✓ Rebeckah, y^e Daughter of John and Elizabeth

Emerson		February 25, 1733.
Matthew Peabody	his Sarah	April 1,
Sam ^l Bradstreet	" Eunice	" 29,
John Prichard	" Martha	" "
Sam ^l Curtice	" Rachel	May 6,
Nathanael Curtice	" Priscilla	June 3,
Thomas Perkins	" Susannah	August 5,
Joseph Towne	" Eunice	" 26,
Stephen Johnson	" Rebeckah	September 23,
Benjamin Towne	" Susannah	October 7,
Sam ^l Perkins	" Mary	" "
Sam ^l Towne	" Hannah	" 14,
Micall Dwinell	" Elisabeth	November 4,
Ephraim Wildes	" Jacob	" 11,
Ebenezer Curtice	" Abner	" "
Thomas Baker	" John	" 25,
Jacob Robinson	" Jacob	December 2,
Edmund Towne	" Edmund	" 9,
Sam ^l Boyd	" Sam ^l	" 16,
" "	" Ann	" "
" "	" John	" " .
Nathan Porter Jun ^r	" Nathan ^l	" 23,
Jabez Towne	" Mary	" 30,
Daniel Gloyd, of adult age		February 3, 1734.
Dan Clark	his Daniel	" 10,
John Lampson Jun ^r	" Ruth	" "
Philip Towne	" Dinah	" 24,
Jacob Dorman	" David	March 3,
Mark How	" Mark	" 10,
Abraham Foster Jun ^r	" Ruth	" 17,
Jacob Perkins	" Luce	April 14,
Aaron Estey	" Abigail	May 5,
Israel Towne	" Archelaus	" 19,
William Perkins Jun ^r	" Elizabeth	" "
Phineas Reddington	" Dorothy	June 2,
" "	" Ann	" "
" "	" Phineas	" "
John Towne Jun ^r	" Elijah	" "
Thomas Gould Jun ^r	" Abner	" 9,
Nathan Towne	" Aaron	September 1,
Daniel Reddington	" Margaret	" 29,
David Cummings	" Anna	October 20,
Richard Towne	" Sarah	December 1,

8 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Jonathan Foster	his Affia	December 8, 1734.
Nathan ^l Curtice	" Nathan ^l	" 15,
Jonathan Perkins	" Abigail	" 22,
Israel Clark	" Mercy	January 5, 1735.
✓ Thomas, y ^e son of John and Elizabeth Emer- son		" 12,
Robert Perkins	his Martha	" "
Thomas Howlett	" Lydia	February 23,
Daniel Gould	" Daniel	April 6,
David Gould	" Edmund	" 20,
John Prichard	" Hannah	May 18,
Joseph Perkins	" Mary	" "
Joseph Peabody	" Dudley	June 29,
Abraham Reddington	" Abraham	" "
Jacob Averell	" Lydia	July 6,
Tobijah Perkins	" Jonathan	" 27,
Samuell Boyd	" Mary	" "
Jacob Robinson	" John	" "
Joseph Kneeland	" Edward	August 10,
Ruth Clough, of adult age, y ^e wife of Daniel Clough, and their child Elisabeth		" 17,
John Gould	his Amos	" 24,
Jacob Dorman	" Mercy	" 31,
Nathan ^l Wood	" Luce	September 7,
" "	" Obadiah	" "
Sam ^l Howlett	" Mary	" 14,
Joseph Hovey	" Joseph	October 12,
Amos Dorman	" Dudley	" "
Philip Kneeland Jun ^r	" Moses	" 26,
Jacob Reddington	" Pheebe	December 28,
John Town Jun ^r	" Deborah	" "
Nathan Hood	" Mary	January 11, 1736.
Ebenezer Curtice	" Elizabeth	" "
Thomas Baker	" Symonds	" 18,
Mark How	" Abijah	February 1,
Luke Averell	" Ebenezer	" "
Solomon Gould	" Elisabeth	" "
Amos Dorman	" Amos	" 22,
John Averell	" Mary	March 14,
Thomas Dorman	" Judith	" "
Daniel Gloyd	" Daniel	" 21,
Nathanael Hood, of adult age		April 18,
Sam ^l Bradstreet	his Asa	" 25,
Ephraim Wildes	" Dorothy	May 2,

Phineas Reddington	his Sarah	May	2, 1736.
Benjamin Towne	" Edmund	"	9,
" "	" Ezra	"	"
" "	" Elijah	"	"
all which were born at one birth			
Jacob Perkins	his Lydia	"	"
Mary Dwinell, y ^e wife of John Dwinell		"	16,
Dan Clark	his Elijah	June	27,
Aaron Estey	" Esther	July	4,
Thomas Potter	" Thomas	"	11,
Will ^m Perkins	" Adia	"	18,
Thomas Gould Jun ^r	" Asa	"	25,
Sam ^l Perkins	" Archelaus	August	8,
W ^m . Rogers	" Elizabeth	"	15,
Aaron Hubbard	" Mary	"	"
Philip Towne	" Daniel	"	29,
David Gould	" Sarah	September	5,
Sam ^l Curtice	" Eunice	"	12,
Micall Dwinell Jun ^r	" Bartholomew	October	24,
" "	" Luce	"	"
" "	" Hannah	"	"
" "	" Micall	"	"
✓ Mary, y ^e Daughter of John and Elizabeth Em- erson		"	31,
W ^m Perkins	his Eunice	"	"
Jacob Peabody Jun ^r	" Jacob	November	7,
Israel Clarke	" Sarah	"	21,
Israel Towne	" Israel	December	19,
Philip Kneland Jun ^r	" Elizabeth	"	"
Nathan ^l Porter, Jun ^r	" Mary	"	26,
Sam ^l Smith Jun ^r	" Priscilla	January	2, 1737.
Joseph Kneland	" Timothy	February	27,
Thomas Howlett	" John	"	"
Robert Perkins	" Mehitabel	March	13,
Abraham Foster Jun ^r	" Abigail	April	3,
Joseph Herrick Jun ^r	" Nehemiah	May	1,
David Cummings	" Susannah	"	15,
Daniel Gould	" Lydia	June	5,
Nathan ^l Hood	" Sam ^l	"	12,
Jacob Robinson	" Mary	July	10,
Sam ^l Curtice	" Elijah	August	14,
Jacob Dorman	" Sarah	September	4,
Jonathan Perkins	" Dudley	"	11,
Jabez Towne	" Rebeckah	"	"

10 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Baptized Sarah Gallop a child upon y^e account
of Daniel Reddington who took her to bring
up.

		September 18, 1737.
Joseph Peabody	his Elisabeth	" 25,
Y ^e widow Mary Kenney	her Josiah	October 2,
Sam ^l Howlett	his Davis	" 16,
Daniel Reddington	" Anna	" 23,
Sam ^l Smith Jun ^r	" Sam ^l	" 30,
Nathan Hood	" Joanna	November 20,
John Towne Jun ^r	" Asa	December 4,
Aaron Estey	" William	" 11,
Tobijah Perkins	" Mary	" 25,
Joshua Conant	" Jehodin	" "
Mark How	" Mark	January 1, 1738.
Richerd Towne	" Richerd	" "
Thomas Cummings	" Asa	" "
Jacob Peabody Jun ^r	" Sarah	February 12,
Jonathan Foster	" Philemon	" 19,
Thomas Baker	" William	" 26,
Nathan ^l Moulton	" Nathan ^l	" "
Ephraim Wildes	" Thomas	March 12,
Jacob Perkins	" Joseph	" 19,
Sam ^l Perkins	" Sarah	" 26,
Jonathan Standley	" Abigail	April 2,
John Prichett	" Patience	" 30,
Amos Dorman	" Thomas	" "
Aaron Hubbard	" Lydia	May 14,
Jacob Reddington	" Eliphalet	June 11,
✓ Edward, y ^e son of John	& Elisabeth Emerson	July 16,
Solomon Gould	his Solomon	" 30,
Luke Averell	" Moses	August 13,
Rebeckah Smith	her John	" "
Thomas Dorman	his Thomas	" 20,
Sam ^l Putnam	" Elizabeth	September 10,
Jacob Dorman	" Damaras	October 8,
John Dwinell Jun ^r	" Ruth	" 15,
Thomas Edwards	" Rice	" 29,
Jabez Town	" Jacob	November 12,
Phineas Reddington	" Phineas	" 19,
John Averell	" Abiel	" 26,
Jacob Robinson	" Elizabeth	January 7, 1739.
Thomas Cummings	" Lydia	February 4,
Ebenezer Curtis	" Hannah	" "
Israel Clark	" Sarah	" 11,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 11

Thomas Howlett	his Thomas	March	4, 1739.
Joseph Perkins	" Eunice	"	13,
Joseph Kneland	" Miriam	"	"
Daniel Reddington	" Daniel	"	25,
Nathan ^{ll} Porter Jun ^r	" Mary	"	"
Joseph Peabody	" Jacob	April	8,
Isaac Towne	" Lydia	"	22,
Elisha Towne Jun ^r	" Joseph	"	"
Israel Towne	" Moses	May	6,
W ^m . Perkins	" Elisabeth	"	19,
which was baptized at his own House, y ^e child being dangerously sick.			
Dan Clark	his Sam ^{ll}	June	3,
Nathan ^{ll} Hood Jun ^r	" Esther	"	"
John Perkins Jun ^r	" Timothy	"	17,
Robert Perkins	" Anna	"	24,
Aaron Estey	" Daniel	July	15,
Jacob Averell	" Mary	August	5,
Amos Dorman	" Daniel	"	"
Joseph Herrick Jun ^r	" Gideon	"	26,
Mark How	" Nathan ^{ll}	September	16,
David Cummings	" Elizabeth	"	30,
Nathan ^{ll} Moulton	" John	October	14,
baptized by M ^r . Emerson of Malden.			
Thomas Gould Jun ^r	his Mary	November	11,
Thomas Dwinell Jun ^r	" Elijah	"	25,
Richard Towne	" Hannah	December	16,
John Dwinell Jun ^r	" Susannah	"	23,
John Lampson Jun ^r	" Robert	January	6, 1740.
Jonathan Foster	" Apphia	"	13,
Nathan Hood	" Nathan	"	"
Joshua Conant	" Pelutiah	"	20,
Sam ^{ll} Smith Jun ^r	" Vashti	February	10,
Dorcas, y ^e Daughter of John and Elisabeth Emerson			
		March	9,
Joseph Baker	his Mehetabel	"	"
Isaac Towne	" Eunice	"	16,
Jonathan Treadwell	" Martha	"	30,
Joseph Dorman	" Nathanael	April	6,
Jonathan Stanley	" Mary	"	20,
Luke Averell	" Isaac	June	8,
Jonathan Perkins	" Philemon	"	15,
Aaron Hubbard	" Elnathan	"	"
Ephraim Wildes	" Moses	August	3,

12 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Joseph Curtis, Jun^r, of adult age, and his child

Solomon.		August	10, 1740.
Sam ^l Howlett	" Miriam	"	24,
Thomas Andrus Jun ^r	" David	September	14,
Jacob Dorman	" Susannah	"	21,
Joseph Hovey	" Abigail	"	"
Jabez Towne	" Elijah	"	"
Joseph Cummings, Jun ^r	" Nathan ^l	"	28,
Thomas Dorman	" Elizabeth	October	5,
Dan Clark	" Dan	"	19,
John Perkins Jun ^r	" Daniel	November	16,
Jacob Dwinell	" Israel	"	"
Eleazer Gould	" Eleazer	January	4, 1741.
Thomas Goodhall	" Joseph & }	twins	"
" "	" Benjamin		
Jacob Robinson	" Zacheus	"	18,
Jacob Perkins	" Zebulon	"	25,
Solomon Gould	" Nathanael	February	1,
Cornelius Balch	" Mary	March	15,
Israel Clark	" Samuel	"	22,
Nathan ^l Porter Jun ^r	" Phebe	April	5,
Jacob Peabody Jun ^r	" Nathan ^l	"	"
Elisha Towne Jun ^r	" Bartholomew	"	12,
Thomas Cummings	" Thomas	"	"
Sam ^l Curtis	" John	"	19,
Joseph Perkins	" Huldah	"	"
Philip Neeland Jun ^r	" David	"	"
John Prichard	" Priscilla	"	26,
John Marshall	" Elizabeth	May	10,
Nathan ^l Hood	" Abigail	"	24,
Thomas Baker	" Joseph	"	31,
John Batcheller	" Anna	June	14,
Mark How	" Philemon	"	28,
Thomas Edwards	" Rachel	"	"
Aaron Estey	" Esther	July	5,
Amos Dorman	" Daniel	"	12,
John Balch	" David	"	"
Stephen Foster	" Stephen	"	19,
Sam ^l Curtis	" Flora	"	"
a negro servant child			
Simon Gould	his Moses	"	26,
W ^m Perkins	" William	August	2,
Joseph Herrick Jun ^r	" William	"	"
Isaac Towne	" Isaac	"	"

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 13

Deborah, a Negro servant woman belonging to	August	9, 1741.
Joseph Herrick, and		
Katharine, a Negro servant maid belonging to	"	"
Joseph Porter: and		
Enos, a child son of said Deborahs and her	"	"
husband Sharper, a Negro man servant to		
Sam ^l Gott of Wenham		
Mical Holdgate	his Asa	October 4,
"	" Hannah	" "
Thomas Dwinell Jun ^r	" Eunice	" 25,
Joseph Dorman	" Ephraim	November 15,
Nathan Hood	" Daniel	" "
John Dodge	" Eunice	" 22,
✓ Abigail, y ^e Daughter of John and Elizabeth		
Emerson		December 20,
Mical Holdgate	his Mary	January 24, 1742.
Simon Bradstreet Jun ^r	" Henry	February 14,
Jacob Estey	" Anna	" 28,
David Towne	" Abigail	March 7,
Thomas Gould Jun ^r	" Mercy	" 21,
Thomas Howlett	" Ammiruhamah	" "
Jonathan Standley	" Sam ^l	" "
John Balch	" John	April 4,
Jonathan Foster	" Jemima	" 18,
Ebenezer Curtis	" Stephen	" 25,
Jeremiah Towne	" Elisabeth	May 16,
Joseph Curtice Jun ^r	" Ruth	" "
Aaron Hovey	" Stephen	" "
Ruth Dodge	her Mary	" 23,
Sam ^l Smith Jun ^r	his Susanna	" 30,
Seabrew, a Negro servant man belonging to	June	20,
Sam ^l Pearley and		
Dinah, a negro servant child belonging to	"	"
Thomas Howlett		
Amos Hood, of adult age	"	27,
John Hood, of adult age	"	"
Ezekiel Potter	his Thomas	" "
Jacob Averell	" Priscilla	July 4,
Sam ^l Pearley	" Sam ^l	August 15,
Jacob Peabody Jun ^r	" John	October 3,
Sam ^l Potter Jun ^r	" Jeremiah	" 17,
Titus, a Negro servant child belonging to	"	"
Sam ^l Perkins		
Doctor Richard Dexter his Mehetabel	November	7,

14 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Eleazer Gould	his Elisabeth	November 14, 1742.
Joseph Hovey	" Mary	" 21,
Thomas Andrews	" Jonathan	" 28,
Benjamin Towne Jun ^r	of adult age	January 16, 1743.
W ^m Rogers	his W ^m	February 6,
Nathan ^{ll} Porter Jun ^r	" Daniel	" "
Elisha Towne Jun ^r	" Thomas	" 20,
Jacob Perkins	" Elisha	March 6,
Jacob Robinson	" Dorothy	" 13,
Luke Averell	" Elijah	" 20,
Israel Clark	" Bathsheba	April 10,
Cornelius Balch	" Martha	" "
Abraham Hobbs	" Isaac	" 24,
Sam ^{ll} Curtis	" Rebeckah	May 15,
Thomas Baker	" Sarah	" 29,
Thomas Symonds	" Ruth	" "
Solomon Gould	" Lydia	June 19,
Nathan ^{ll} Hood Jun ^r	" Sarah	" "
Ephraim Wildes	" Ephraim & }	twins " 26,
" "	" Elijah	
Mary Barall, of adult age		August 7,
Joseph Peabody	his Priscilla	" 21,
Ann Wallis, of adult age		September 4,
Joshua Conant	his Jerusha	" 11,
Sam ^{ll} Potter Jun ^r	" Hannah	" "
Jeremiah Towne	" Jeremiah	" 18,
Jonathan Perkins	" Sarah	" 25,
Aaron Hubbard	" John	October 2,
Ezekiel Potter	" Ezekiel	" "
David Cummings	" Jonathan	" 16,
John Batcheller	" John	" 30,
Thomas Edwards	" Huldah	November 13,
Joseph Cummings	" Abigail	" "
Sam ^{ll} Pearley	" John	" 27,
Isaac Towne	" Asa	December 4,
✓ Elihu, y ^e son of John and Elisabeth Emerson		" 25,
Nathan Hood	" Mary	January 8, 1744.
John Dodge	" Abel	" "
Stephen Foster	" Nathanael	" 15,
Mark How	" Hepsibah	" 22,
Daniel Bixby	" Elisabeth	" "
Jonathan Stanley	" John	February 5,
Eleazer Gould	" Zacheus	" 12,
John Symonds	" John	" 26,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 15

Sam ^l Smith Jun ^r	his Asahel	March	11, 1744.
Aaron Hovey	“ Moses	“	18,
John Bradstreet	“ Elizabeth	“	“
David Towne	“ David	“	25,
John Balch	“ Sam ^l	“	“
Isaac Perkins	“ Mary	“	“
Jabez Town	“ Abigail	April	1,
Micall Holdgate	“ Sarah	“	15,
Thomas Gould Jun ^r	“ Dorcas	May	13,
John Prichard	“ John	“	20,
Zilpah, a Negro Child of Sharper and Deborah			
his wife, Negro Servants		“	“
Jacob peabody Jun ^r	his Eunice	“	27,
Zilpah, y ^e child of Sharper and Katherine			
his wife, Negro Servants		“	“
W ^m Rogers	his Deborah	June	3,
Simon Gould	“ Hannah	“	10,
and after publick Exercise went to y ^e House			
of Thomas Dwinell, and baptised Ruth y ^e		“	“
child of y ^e widow Susanna Dwinell, y ^e child			
not being able to be brot to y ^e Meeting House			
Divers of y ^e chh : were present			
John Le Favour	his Mary	“	17,
Ephraim Wildes	“ Mary	“	24,
Thomas Dwinell Jun ^r	“ Jacob	July	8,
Joseph Perkins	“ Joseph	“	22,
Jacob Dwinell	“ Jacob	August	12.
Jonathan Foster	“ Olive	“	26,
John Perkins, Third	“ Elizabeth	“	“
Thomas Howlett	“ Alice	September	9,
W ^m Perkins	“ Oliver	October	21,
Dan Clark	“ Dan	November	25,
Matthew Peabody	“ Seth	December	2,
Ephraim Kimball Jun ^r	“ Sam ^l	“	16,
Nathan ^l Porter Jun ^r	“ Nathan ^l	January	6, 1745.
Thomas Symonds	“ Anna	“	“
Joseph Curtis Jun ^r	“ Sam ^l & }	“	20,
“ “	“ Mary }		
David Cummings	“ Stephen	“	27,
Elisha Towne Jun ^r	“ Mercy	February	24,
Simon Bradstreet	“ Philip	March	3,
Simon Bradstreet Jun ^r	“ Ann	April	7,
Jacob Perkins	“ Elisha	“	14,
Cornelius Balch	“ Joseph	“	“

16 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Nathan ^{ll} Low	his Jonathan	April	21, 1745.
Hannah, y ^e Daughter of John and Elizabeth Emerson		May	19,
Nehemiah Abbot	his Elisabeth	"	"
Abraham Hobbs	" Jacob	June	16,
George Start	" Sarah	July	7,
Jeremiah Towne	" Susanna	"	14,
John Symonds	" Mary	"	21,
John Balch	" Robert	"	28,
Israel Clark	" Jacob	August	11,
Ezekiel Potter	" Sarah	September	1,
Sam ^{ll} Howlett Jun ^r	" Sam ^{ll}	"	"
Daniel Bixby	" Ruth	October	6,
Sam ^{ll} Pearley	" Nathaniel	"	13,
John LeFavour	" Rachel	"	"
Nathan ^{ll} Hood Jun ^r	" Susanna	November	3,
John Perkins Jun ^r	" Jethro	"	24,
Jonathan Stanley	" Joseph	December	22,
John Bradstreet	" Priscilla	January	12, 1746.
Joseph Cummings Jun ^r	" Joseph	"	19,
Aaron Estey	" Aaron	February	2,
Nathan Hood	" Joseph	"	16,
Ebenezer Curtice	" Ephraim	"	"
Elisha Cummings	" Mary	"	"
Solomon Gould	" John	"	23,
Stephen Foster	" Abigail	March	2,
Eleazer Gould	" John	"	16,
Thomas Edwards	" Sarah	"	30,
Nathan ^{ll} Low	" Susanna	"	"
Elijah Porter	" Anna	April	20,
Nathan ^{ll} Porter Jun ^r	" Pheebe	May	18,
Joseph Perkins	" Elisha	"	25,
Tho ^s Baker	" Mary	June	8,
Tho ^s Gould Jun ^r	" Benjamin	"	"
Sharper a Negro Ser- vant man	" Charles	"	"
Sam ^{ll} Potter Jun ^r	" Daniel	"	15,
Eleazer Lake Jun ^r	" Lydia	July	13,
Jacob Dwinell	" John	"	27,
Simon Gould	" Jane	August	3,
Aaron Hovey	" Sarah	"	"
John Symonds	" Mary	September	7,
David Town	" Archelaus	"	"
Joseph Cummings	" Sarah		14,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 17

Thomas Dwinell Jun ^r	his Susanna	September 14, 1746.
Israel Herrick	" Joseph	" 28,
Isaac Perkins	" John	October 5,
Sam ^l Phippen	" Mercy	" 12,
" "	" Mary	" "
" "	" Sam ^l	" "
" "	" Joseph	" "

✓ Dorothy, y^e Daughter of John and Eliz^{bth} Emerson

son " 19,

Isaac, y^e son of ——— and Katharine his wife

Negro Servants " 26,

Ephraim Kimball Jun^r his Hannah November 9,

John Boardman " Elizabeth " 23,

John Prichard " Ruth & { twins December 7,

" " " Lydia {

Ephraim Wildes " Hepzibah " "

Robert Smith " Elijah " "

Joshua Conant " Lot " 28,

Thomas Symonds " Hannah " "

Benja^m Bixby " Benjamin January 4, 1747.

John Perkins Third " John February 8,

Joseph Dorman " Abigail " 22,

Cornelius Balch " Elizabeth " "

Jacob Averell " Amos March 29,

George Starte " William " "

John Balch " Hannah " "

Nehemiah Abbot " Eleanor April 5,

Daniel Bixby " Mary " 12,

John Le Favour " John " 15,

which was baptized at his House, on a week

Day, y^e child being Dangerously sick, & ex-

pired soon after its Baptism.

Jabez Towne his Ruth May 3,

Nathan^l Averell Jun^r " Nathan^l " 10,

Eleazer Curtice " Lydia " 17,

Zebulun Wildes " Molly " 24,

Micall Holdgate " Priscilla July 5,

Zebulun Wildes " Peggy " 12,

Anthony Potter " Susanna " 19,

Joseph Cummings Jun^r " Jonathan " 26,

Jacob Perkins " Abel August 9,

Abraham Hobbs " Joseph " 23,

18 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Rebeckah and Ceesar two Negro Servant
children belonging to Sam^l Perkins, whose
wife a Member of y^e chh: Engaged for y^e
Children.

		August	30, 1747.
Elisha Cummings	his John	September	13,
Matthew Peabody	" Isaac	October	4,
Wm. Conant	" Wm.	"	11,
Sam ^l Pearley	" Ruth	November	8,
Daniel Cummings	" Lucy	"	15,
Elisha Towne, Jun ^r	" Sarah	December	13,
Sam ^l Phippen	" Hannah	"	"
Joseph, son of John & Elizabeth Emerson		"	20,
Ezekiel Potter	his Nathan ^l	January	3, 1748.
Israel Herrick	" Israel	"	"
Israel Clark	" David	"	10,
Jonathan Standley	" Jedidiah	February	7,
John Le Favour	" John	March	27,
Nathan Hood	" Benjamin	April	3,
John Symonds	" Joanna	"	"
Joseph Peabody	" Peggy	"	17,
Richard Gould	" John	May	1,
Jacob Dwinell	" Mehetabel	"	8,
Sharper a Negro serv ^t	" Charles	June	5,
Sam ^l Potter	" Prudence	July	17,
Jacob Dresser	" Molly	"	31,
Eliezer Gould	" Huldah	August	7,
Sam ^l Howlett Jun ^r	" Elizabeth	"	21,
Aaron Estey	" William	"	28,
Nathan ^l Porter Jun ^r	" Abigail	September	25,
Robert Smith	" Elisha	October	9,
John Pricherd	" Mary	"	16,
Jeremiah Towne	" Nehemiah	"	23,
John Boardman	" John	November	6,
John Perkins Third	" Daniel	"	13,
Mical Coffeen	" Mary	"	20,

But y^e Child was baptized upon y^e account
of Eliezer Lake & his wife, y^e grand Parents,
who took it as y^r own.

Joseph Hovey	his Joseph	"	20,
James Andrews	" John	"	27,
George Starte	" George	December	18,
Stephen Gould	" Stephen	"	"
John Bradstreet	" Molly	"	25,
Cornelius Balch	" Cornelius	"	"

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 19

Joshua Towne Jun ^r	his Sarah	December, 18, 1748.
Ebenezer Averell	" Ruth	January 1, 1749.
Elijah Porter	" Bettey	" 22,
John Perkins Jun ^r	" Esther	" 29,
Elisha Cummings	" Andrew	February 12,
Tho ^s Foster	" Elijah	March 5,
Tho ^s Symonds	" Jacob	April 16,
Richard Gould	" Susanna	" "
Aaron Hovey	" Dorcas	" 23,
Tho ^s Gould Jun ^r	" Mercy	May 7,
Ephraim Wildes	" Hannah	" 14,
Tho ^s Pearly	" Enoch	" 21,
David Town	" Joseph	" "
Eliezer Lake Jun ^r	" Lydia	" "
Simon Gould	" Lucy	" 28,
Cap ^t Tho ^s Baker	" Jonathan	July 2,
Joseph Cummings	" Martha	" "
Joshua Balch	" Joshua	" "
Zachariah Dwinell	" Betty	" "
Stephen Foster	" Jacob	" 30,
W ^m Conant	" Elizabeth	" "
Tho ^s Dwinell	" Stephen	August 6,
David Cummings	" Daniel	September 3,
John Le Favour	" Annah	" "
Mical Holdgate	" Mary	" "
Jacob Robinson	" Sarah	" 17,
Nehemiah Abbot	" John	" "
Ephraim Kimball Jun ^r	" Ezra	" "
Eliezer Gould	" Elizabeth	" 24,
John Gould	" John	October 8,
Sam ^l Towne Jun ^r	" Elizabeth	" 22,
John Symonds	" Joseph	" 29,
John Hale	" Elizabeth	November 12,
Abner Hale	" David	December 3,
Joseph Perkins Jun ^r	" Jonathan	" 17,
Abraham Hobbs	" Benjamin	" 31,
Jonathan Stanly	" Joseph	January 28, 1750.
Stephen Gould	" Hannah	February 11,
Eleazer Curtis	" Sarah	March 4,
Eleazer Killam	" Sarah	" "
Jabez Town	" Susanna	April 1,
Nathan Hood	" Elizabeth	" 22,
Sam ^l Phippen	" Mehetabel	" "
Joseph Curtis	" Pheebe	" 29,
Widow Conant	her Joshua	" "

20 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Zebulun Wildes	his Zebulun	May	27, 1750.
John Baker	" Mary	June	10,
Nathan ^l Averell, Jun ^r	" Hannah	August	19,
James Andrews	" Sam ^l	"	"
Joseph, son of John and Elizabeth Emerson		September	9,
Stephen Emery	his John	October	7,
Joshua Balch	" Archelaus	"	14,
y ^e ordinance administered privately y ^e child being Judged dangerously sick.			
Matthew Peabody	his Deborah	October	28,
John Pricherd	" Huldah	"	"
Elijah Foster	" Elizabeth	"	"
Joshua Towne Jun ^r	" Jacob	December	30,
James Curtis Jun ^r	" Hannah	January	20, 1751.
Jeremiah Towne	" William	February	3,
John Perkins Jun ^r	" Mary	"	"
Richerd Marshall Jun ^r	" Richerd	"	10,
Jacob Dwinell	" Ruth	"	17,
Retiah Bacon	" Jacob	"	"
George Starte	" John	"	"
John Hood	" Richerd	March	3,
Joseph Symonds Jun ^r	" Mehetabel	"	24,
Benj ^m Bayly	" Elizabeth	"	"
Daniel Bixby	" Daniel	April	21,
John Boardman	" Mary	"	28,
Elisha Cummings	" Isaac	"	"
Thomas Foster	" Allen	"	"
Elijah Porter	" Thomas	May	5,
Widow Buzzell, her two children			
	Ruth	"	12,
	John	"	"
John Gould	his Benj ^m	"	19,
Robert Smith	" Thomas	June	9,
John Bradstreet	" Mehetabel	"	16,
Tho ^s Baker	" David	"	30,
Joseph Cummings Jun ^r	" Hannah	"	"
Tho ^s Gould Jun ^r	" Andrew	July	14,
Benj ^m Bixby	" Anne	"	"
Tamar, a negro Servant child belonging to Eli- jah Porter, who Engaged to bring it up in y ^e Christian Religion		"	"
David Cummings Jun ^r	his Ebenezer	"	21,
Thomas Dwinell	" Thomas	"	28,
David Cummings Jun ^r	" Elizabeth	September	22,

Benj ^m Woodbury	“ Elizabeth	October	20, 1751.
Aaron Hovey	“ Huldah	“	27,
John Le Favour	“ Robert	Nov ^m	3,
Eliezer Lake Jun ^r	“ Eliezer	“	“
Joseph Hale 3 ^d	“ Sarah	“	17,
Jonathan Stanley	“ Hannah	December	8,
Ebenezer Averell	“ Ebenezer	“	22,
Abraham Hobbs	“ David	January	12, 1752.
David Towne	“ Archelaus	“	“
Amos Wildes	“ Mary	Februaay	9,
Nathan Hood	“ Mehetabel	March	29,
Widow Lucy Perkins	her Elisha	“	“
Stephen Gould	his Elijah	April	5,
Jenny, a Negro Servant Child belonging to y ^e widow Lucy Perkins, who publickly and sol- emnly Engaged to bring up s ^d child in y ^e Christian Religion			
		May	24,
John Pricherd	his Eunice	June	7,
Abner Hale	“ Amos	“	“
Simon Gould	“ Huldah	“	14,
John Lampson 3 ^d	“ Anna	“	“
Nathan ^l Low	“ Amos	“	28,
Tho ^s Symonds	“ Hepsibah	July	5,
Nathan ^l Smith	“ Anna	“	“
David Cummings	“ Archelaus	“	12,
John Baker	“ Priscilla	“	“
Joseph Curtis	“ Lydia	August	23,
Tho ^s Baker Jun ^r	“ Tho ^s	“	30,
Asa Pearley	“ Daniel	October	1,
James Andrew	“ Robert	“	15,
Jacob Gould	“ Jacob	“	“
Joseph Symonds Jun ^r	“ Sam ^l	“	22,
W ^m oyles	“ Lydia	“	“
Joseph Browne	“ Sam ^l	November	5,
Sam ^l Towne Jun ^r	“ Thomas	“	19,
Joseph Gould Jun ^r	“ Elizabeth	December	10,
Eliezer Gould	“ Rebekah	January	7, 1753.
Samson, a Negro Serv ^t man belonging to Doct ^r Dexter, was baptized			
		“	21,
John Creed, of adult age		“	28,
John Boardman	“ Daniel	February	4,
Tho ^s Moore	“ Mary	“	“
Tho ^s Perkins Jun ^r	“ Elisha	“	11,
John Creed	“ Joseph	“	“

22 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Cap ^t Tho ^s Baker	his Rebeckah	February	18, 1753.
Israel Averell	" Eunice	"	25,
John Bradstreet	" Huldah	"	"
John Peabody	" Lucy	April	8,
Lydia Dwinell, of adult age		"	15,
Tho ^s Foster	his Abigail	"	22,
John Clarke	" Hannah	"	29,
David Perkins	" Ezra	"	"
Joshua Towne Jun ^r	" Lucy	May	20,
Benj ^m Bixby	" Sarah	"	27,
Benj ^m Woodbury	" Daniel	"	"
Eleazer Curtis	" Betty	June	3,
✓ Cornelius Waldo, son of John & Elizabeth Emerson		"	10,
Jacob Curtis	his Jacob	"	17,
Joseph Perkins	" Jacob	"	24,
Jacob Gould	" Richard	"	"
Jonathan Towne	" Jonathan	"	"
Amos Wildes	" Lois	July	22,
Tho ^s Gould	" Nathan ^l	"	29,
Mical Holdgate	" Sarah	August	5,
Ebenezer Killem	" Nathan ^l	"	"
Tho ^s Edwards	" Abraham	"	12,
Joseph Edwards	" Andrew	"	"
David Balch Jun ^r	" David	"	26,
Sam ^l Phippen	" Sarah	September	16,
Jonathan Foster	" Jonathan	"	23,
Joseph Cummings Jun ^r	" Mary	"	"
Robert Perkins	" Ruth	October	7,
Zebulun Wildes	" Mercy	"	14,
Tho ^s Dwinell	" Amos	November	4,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Hannah	"	"
John Perkins Jun ^r	" Elizabeth	"	18,
David Prichard	" Dolly	"	25,
Nathan ^l Smith	" Jacob	December	2,
Deacon Daniel Gould	" Daniel	"	9,
Thomas Perkins	" Thomas	"	"
Joseph Gould	" Joseph	"	"
Daniel Lake	" Daniel	January	27, 1754.
Richard Marshall	" Jemima	February	17,
John Gould	" Esther	March	17,
Micall Holdgate	" Hannah	"	"
Stephen Gould	" Stephen	"	24,
Philip Neeland Jun ^r	" Aaron	"	31,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 23

Abraham Hobbs	his Jonathan	March	31, 1754.
John Bradstreet	" Huldah	April	21,
John Le Favour	" Thomas	"	"
Aaron Hovey	" Tho ^s	"	28,
David Towne	" Eunice	May	19,
Joseph Hale 3 ^d	" Mary	"	26,
Elijah Porter	" Sarah	June	9,
Nathan Hood	" Susanna	"	23,
John Lampson 3 ^d	" Elizabeth	July	7,
Joseph Symonds Jun ^r	" Joseph	August	11,
Jacob Dwinell	" Phebe	"	18,
Sarah, wife of Luis Andrews, baptized LORDS			
Day Evening in her own House at her repeated Request, She appearing on y ^e Brink of			
Eternity and giving Christian Satisfaction			
Elisha Cummings	his Elisha	September	15,
Jacob Curtice	" Stephen	"	29,
Eliezer Lake Jun ^r	" Sarah	October	6,
Nathan ^{ll} Low	" Molly	"	13,
Edmund Putnam	" Israel	Nov ^m	17,
Thomas Moor	" Abigail	December	8 th
John Hale	" Mehetabel	February	9, 1755.
Jacob Gould	" Ruth	"	"
David Balch Jun ^r	" Sam ^{ll}	"	16,
Amos Wildes	" Amos	"	"
Moses Perkins	" Moses	"	"
Dc ⁿ Daniel Gould	" Elisha	"	23,
Asa Pearley	" Henry	"	"
John Cree	" Asa	"	"
W ^m Stickney	" Eunice	March	2 ^d ,
Sam ^{ll} Towne Jun ^r	" Richerd	"	16,
Joseph Magery	" Sarah	"	"
(also Majory)			
Jeremiah Gallop, of adult age		"	"
Tho ^s Foster	his Ebenezer	April	6,
John Clark	" Mary	"	13,
Jonathan Foster	" Moses	"	"
Ebenezer Averell	" David	"	"
Eli Towne	" Elizabeth	"	20,
Nathan ^{ll} Smith	" Miriam	"	27,
Benjamin Woodbury	" Aaron	May	4,
Paul Pricherd	" Amos	"	11,
" "	" Jeremiah	"	"
Daniel Black	" Abigail	"	"

24 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

w^h Baptisms (preceeding three) w^r administered
in Boxford Meeting House 1st Chh:

Robert Perkins	his Hannah	June	1 st , 1755.
Joseph Towne Jun ^r	" Deborah	"	8 th ,
Benj ^m Bayley	" Mary	"	"
James Andrews	" James	"	15 th ,
Thomas Baker Jun ^r	" Sarah	"	"
Israel Herrick	" Elizabeth	"	"
Archelaus Dwinell	" Archelaus	"	29 th ,
Peter Robinson	" Sarah	"	"
" "	" John	"	"
Ebenezer Killem	" Hannah	July	13,
Enoch Perkins	" John	"	20,
Isaac Perkins	" Robert	"	27,
Tho ^s Perkins, Jun ^r	" Sarah	August	24,
George Dwinelles Child, upon y ^e account of his grand Parents		September	28,
Sam ^l Phippen	his Ruth	November	9,
Joseph Cummings Jun ^r	" Jonathan	"	"
Simon Gould	" Simon	"	16,
Israel Davis	" Hannah	"	23,
John Le Favour	" Lydia	December	7,
David Pricherd	" Eli	"	"
Tho ^s Perkins	" William	"	14,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Mical	"	"
Capt ^t Tho ^s Baker	" Martha	"	21,
William Gallop, of adult age and s ^d Gallop's		"	"
Children, viz,		"	"
	Susanna	"	"
	Rebekah	"	"
	Hepsibah	"	"
	William	"	"
	Mary	"	"
	Love	"	"
Sam ^l Tapley and Abiel his wife, and Sam ^l their youngest Son		"	28,
John Baker	his John	January	4 th , 1756.
Timothy Dorman	" Eunice	"	"
Huldah Tapley	} of adult age	"	"
Alexander Tapley			
Hannah Marstin			
Elijah Porter	his Dorothy	"	11,
Isaac Perkins	" Isaac	"	"
Tho ^s Andrew	" Lucy	"	18,
Joseph Gould	" Daniel	"	"

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 25

Jabez Towne Jun ^r	his Lydia	January 18, 1756.
Mary Cree	} of adult age	" "
Sarah Cree		
Phebee Towne		
Alice, an Indian woman		
Eliezer Curtis Jun ^r		" 20,
one week Day & in a private House, he being sick.		
John Bradstreet	his Sarah	February 1 st ,
Prudence Towne	} of adult age	" "
Anna Towne &		
Francis Towne		
John Boardman	his Eunice	February 8 th ,
Benj ^m Bixby	" Dudley	" 29,
W ^m . Gallop	" Elizabeth	March 7,
Molly Hood, a child, upon Joseph Hovey & wifes account, who engaged to bring her up in y ^e christian Religion.		
		March 28,
Archelaus Dwinell	his Amos	" "
Archelaus Rea	" John	April 4,
" "	" Archelaus	" "
Jonathan Towne	" Esther	" "
Richerd Cree	} of adult age	" 11,
Rich ^d Cree		
Mical Holdgate		
Joshua Towne Jun ^r	his Joshua	" "
Tho ^s Perkins 3 ^d	" Archelaus	" "
David Balch Jun ^r	" Israel	" 25,
Francis Satchell	" John	" "
John Gould	" Elizabeth	May 9,
Stephen Gould	" Abner	" "
Abraham Hobbs	" Elijah	" 16,
David Perkins	" David	" "
Israel Averell	" Israel	June 13,
Jacob Curtice	" Lemuel	" 27,
Archelaus Rea	" Caleb	" "
Eliezer Gould	" Bezaleel	July 11,
Joseph Hale 3 ^d	" Joseph	" "
Richerd Marshall	" Nathan ^l	" 18,
Moses Perkins	" Elijah	" 25,
Moses Pearley	" Sarah	August 1,
at Rowley 2 ^d Chh.		
Enoch Perkins	" Rebeckah	" "
by m ^r . Chanler at Topsfield.		
Stephen Perkins	his Dorothy	" 15,

26 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Stephen Perkias	his Mary	August	15, 1756.
Jacob Perkins 3 ^d	" Rachel	September	5,
Isaac Estey	" Stephen	"	12,
Aaron Hovey	" Ivory	"	19,
Jacob Wildes	" Lydia	"	"
Abner Hale	" Lucy	October	3,
Jacob Dwinell	" Ruth	"	17,
John Lampson 3 ^d	" John	"	"
Daniel Lake	" Enos	"	31,
Tho ^s Moor	" Hannah	"	"
John Perkins Jun ^r	" John	November	28,
Richerd Cree	" Rebeckah	"	"
Joseph Hale Jun ^r	" Susanna	December	12,
Stephen Symonds	" Mary	"	"
Widow Abigail Edwards	her Mehetabel	"	"
Eliezer Lake Jun ^r	his Robert	January	2, 1757.
Nathan ^{ll} Smith	" Nathan ^{ll}	"	9,
Jacob Gould	" Elizabeth	"	"
Jonathan Foster	" Dorcas	"	16,
Solomon Gould	" David	February	27,
Cap ^t Israel Herrick	" Mary	March	6,
Widow Eunice (?) Dwi- nell	her Susanna	"	20,
Daniel Kimball	his Nathan ^{ll}	April	10,
Joseph Majory	" Joseph	"	24,
Ebenezer Averell	" Elijah	May	29,
John Le=Favour	" Amos	June	5,
Paul Pricherd	" Pearley	"	12,
Retia Bacon	" Susanna	July	17,
baptized at Boxford.			
Decon Daniel Gould	" Lucy	"	31,
Amos Wildes	" Asa	"	"
John Cree	" Elizabeth	"	"
(above three) by m ^r . Chanler w ^r baptized.			
Will ^m Oils	his Lydia	August	7,
Robert Perkins	" Lydia	"	"
Benj ^m Bayley	" Susanna	"	14,
Will ^m Hood	" Amos	"	21,
Jacob Kimball	" Benj ^m	"	"
Benj ^m Woodbury	" John	"	28,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Sarah	Septemb ^r	4,
Jabez Towne Jun ^r	" Moses	"	11,
Michael Chute	" Joseph	"	25,
baptized at Newbury.			

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 27

Joseph Knight	his John	October	2, 1757.
Paul Averell	" Joseph	"	"
Joseph Hutchinson	" Joseph	"	"
Bimsley Peabody	" Bimsley	"	"
Amos Curtis	" Rachel	"	"
Daniel Peabody	" Dorothy	"	"

baptized at Middleton (above six)

Tho ^s Perkins	his Jemima	"	9,
Cap ^t Israel Davis	" Israel	"	16,
John Peabody	" Hannah	"	"
John Hood	" Eunice	"	23,
John Grant	" Prudence	"	"
Timothy Dorman	" Timothy	"	30,
Elijah Porter	" Hannah	November	6,
Joseph Gould	" Priscilla	"	13,
Tho ^s Kimball	" Huldah	December	4,
Joseph Cumings Jun ^r	" Hannah	January	8, 1758.
Simon Gould	" Elijah	March	5,

✓ Sarah Daughter of John and Elizabeth Emerson.

Pelatiah Cummings	his Pelatiah	"	12,
Nathan ^l Low	" Molly	"	"
John Bradstreet	" Lucy	April	2,
Stephen Gould	" Eunice	"	"
Nathan ^l Smith	" Ruth	"	9,
Moses Perkins	" Tho ^s	"	"
Eliezer Gould	" Jedidiah	"	16,
Jonathan Towne	" Amos	"	30,
Jonathan Bixby	" David	May	17,

Baptized on a week Day in y^e 2^d Parrish in Boxford in a Private House, y^e child being sick. Also baptized.

Stephen Emery	his Betty	"	"
s ^d Emery going in to y ^e War.			
Sam ^l Phippen	his Jonathan-Atwater	"	21 st ,
James Andrews	" Amasa	"	28 th ,
Stephen Symonds	" Martha	June	4,
Benj ^m Bixby	" Enos	"	11,
John Baker	" Moses	"	25,
Jacob Dwinell	" Abigail	July	9,
Tho ^s Dwinell	" Hannah	"	"
Archelaus Rea	" Mary	August	20,
Isaac Estey	" Abigail	September	10,
John Lampson 3 ^d	" Abigail	"	17,
Joseph Hale 3 ^d	" Hannah	October	8,

28 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Retia Bacon	his Molly	October	8, 1758.
Daniel Kimball	" John	"	22,
Stephen Perkins	" Abigail	Nov ^{br}	12,
Fuller	" John	"	26,
baptized at Middleton.			
Jacob Kimball	" Mehetabel	Decemb ^r	3,
Tho ^s Moor	" Elizabeth	"	"
Tho ^s Gould Jun ^r	" Dorcas	"	"
Widow Martha Dwinell	her Jonathan	"	10,
W ^m Gallop	his Amos	"	24,
Amos Wildes	" Dudley	January	7, 1759.
David Balch Jun ^r	" Tho ^s	February	4,
Tho ^s Kimball	" Sarah	"	"
Zebulun Wildes	" Ezra	March	4,
Deacon Daniel Gould	" Sam ^l	"	11,
John Peabody	" Mehetabel	"	"
Tho ^s Baker Jun ^r	" Olive	April	1,
John Le=Favour	" Ruth	"	8,
Jacob Gould	" Edna	"	"
Sam ^l Cummings	" Sarah	"	15,
Abraham Hobbs	" Susanna	"	22,
David Perkins	" Mercy	"	"
James Burch	" Jedidiah	May	6,
Solomon Gould	" Ruth	"	13,
Joseph Cummings Jun ^r	" Mehetabel	"	"
Abner Curtis	" Abner	"	20,
baptized at Boxford 1 st chh.			
Tho ^s Perkins	his Rebeckah	June	3,
y ^e last Child baptized in y ^e old Meeting House.			
Elijah Bradstreet	his Elizabeth	"	24,
Eliezer Gould	" Aholiab	July	16,
baptized in Private y ^e Child apprehended to be dangerously ill.			
Sam ^l Towne Jun ^r	his Enos	August	12,
Joseph Gould	" Sarah	"	26,
John Cree	" Cornelius	Septem ^{br}	16,
Daniel Lake	" Henry	"	23,
W ^m Hood	" Lydia	October	21,
Benj ^m Bixby	" Asa	November	25,
Joseph Magory	" Hannah	"	"
Benj ^m Bayley	" Mehetabel	December	23,
Joseph Andrew	" Hepsibah	January	13, 1760.
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Lucy	"	"
John Hood	" John	March	2,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 29

Tho ^s Foster	his Mehetabel	March	2, 1760.
Eliezer Lake Jun ^r	" Mehetabel	"	16,
——— Smith	" Mary	April	6,
baptized at Rowley, 2 ^d Parrish.			
Benj ^m Woodbury	his Lydia	"	13,
Jacob Perkins Jun ^r	" Daniel	"	20,
Pelatiah Cummings	" Lydia	"	27,
Tho ^s Perkins	" Moses	May	4,
John Lampson 3 ^d	" Abigail	"	11,
Robert Perkins	" Robert	June	1,
W ^m Jewett	" Sam ^l	"	8,
Daniel Averell	" Sarah	"	22,
Amos Perkins	" Kezia	August	3,
Joseph Lystia (?)	" Joseph	"	10,
Enoch Perkins	" Enoch	"	"
John Bradstreet	" Eunice	"	17,
Isaac Estey,	" Hannah	"	"
baptized by Mr Holyoak (above two)			
David Kenney	his David	September	28,
baptized at Middleton.			
John Le-Favour	" W ^m	"	"
baptized at Topsfield by Mr Smith.			
Tho ^s Howlett	his Sarah	October	12,
Molly Hoopper, of adult age, upon owing y ^e		"	19,
Cov ^t was baptized: also a			
Negro Serv ^t Child, named Dinah, y ^e Master		"	"
and Mistress Engaging to instruct s ^d child in			
y ^e Christian Religion.			
Richard Cree	his Stephen	December	28,
Deacon Daniel Gould	" Lydia	January	11, 1761.
Jeremiah Dodge	" Abigail	Febr ^y	1,
Joseph Towne	" Elizabeth	"	22,
Jacob Gould	" Susanna	"	"
Jacob Kimball	" Jacob	"	"
Tho ^s Moors	" Lois	March	1,
Dan ^l Lake	" Jonathan	"	22,
Joseph Gould	" Mary	"	29,
Thos Baker Jun ^r	" Mary	April	12,
David Balch Jun ^r	" Tho ^s	"	"
Moses Perkins	" David	"	"
baptized by m ^r Holyoak (above three)			
Ceesar, a Negro Servant Child, belonging to		"	19,
Sam ^l Cummings: y ^e Master & Mistress en-			
gaging to instruct and bring up y ^e child for			
GOD.			

30 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Tho ^s Gould Jun ^r	his Anna	May	17, 1761.
John Jacobs	" Mary	June	14,
Tho ^s Dwinell	" Molly	July	26,
Jn ^o Fraser	" Elizabeth	August	16,
baptized at Byfield.			
Joseph Cummings	" Elijah	Septemb ^r	27,
Jonathan Towne	" Pheebe	October	4,
Nathan ^l Duston	" Ebenezer	"	18,
Amos Bayley	" Ednah	"	"
" "	" Woodbridge	"	"
Amos Page	" Parker	"	"
" "	" Abia	"	"
Ebenezer Mitchell	" Esther	"	"
Timothy Eaton	" Timothy	"	"
baptized in Haverhill, West Parish.			
(above seven)			
Dan ^l Kimball	his Eunice	Novb ^r	1,
Francis Towne	" Lydia	Decemb ^r	6,
W ^m Gallop	" Enos	"	13,
Tho ^s Howlett	" Lydia	"	"
Davis Howlett	" Cornelius	"	27,
Richerd Lang	" Benj ^m	February	6, 1762.
baptized at Salem			
W ^m Hood	" Susanna	"	21,
baptized (by) M ^r Holyoak.			
Ensign Solomon Gould	his Amos	"	28,
Stephen Hovey	" Aaron	March	14,
Isaac Perkins	" Pheebe	"	21,
Tho ^s Foster	" Dan ^l	"	"
John Hood	" Sam ^l	"	28,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Bartholomew	"	"
Tho ^s Perkins Jun ^r	" Dan ^l	April	4,
Amos Wildes	" Jamme	"	11,
Jn ^o Clough	" Jn ^o	"	25,
Tho ^s Perkins	" Susanna	May	9,
Benj ^m Bixby	" George	"	"
Solomon Gould Jun ^r	" Nathan ^l	"	"
Sam ^l Cummings	" David	"	28,
Nathan ^l Low	" Jonathan	June	20,
Robert Perkins	" Asa	"	"
Dan ^l Averell	" Dan ^l	"	"
John Le-Favour	" Sarah	July	4,
Jn ^o Peabod [y]	" Jn ^o	"	18,
Jn ^o Baker Jun ^r	" Mary	"	25,
baptized (by) M ^r Chanler.			

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 31

Tho ^s Wildes	his Jacob	September 26, 1762.
David Towne	" Tho ^s	October 17,
Jeremiah Foster	" Joshua	" 24,
Jacob Hazen	" Jacob	" "

baptized at Boxford, 1st Parrish.

Peletiah Cummings	his Mehetabel	" 31,
Elijah Clarke	" Humphrey	" "
Tho ^s Hodgdon	" Rebekah	November 14,
John Lampson Jun ^r	" Ruth	" 28,
Deacon Dan ^l Gould	" Ruth	December 5,
Eliezer Lake Jun ^r	" Joseph	" 12,
Benj ^m Bayley	" Benj ^m	" 19,
Isaac Averell	" Elijah	" 26,
David Balch Jun ^r	" Richerd	January 2, 1763.
Tho ^s Moor	" Deborah	" 16,
Joseph Gould	" Emerson	" 23,
Tho ^s Gould Jun ^r	" Benj ^m	" 30,
Jacob Kimball	" Priscilla	March 13,
Francis Towne	" Pheebe	April 10,
John Jacobs	" Sarah	" 24,
W ^m Hood	" Moses	May 22,
Joseph Andrews	" Joseph	" 29,
Sam ^l Towne Jun ^r	" Mary	June 19,
John Herrick	" Anna	July 31,
Timothy Eaton	" James	August 14,

baptized in y^e West Parrish in Haverhill.

Dan ^l Reddington	his Dan ^l	September 4,
Elijah Clarke	" Mary	" 11,
Richard Cree	" Molly	October 16,
Tho ^s Howlett	" Elizabeth	" 23,
Archelaus Rea	" Uzziel	November 6,
Stephen Foster Jun ^r	" Nathan ^l	" "
Dan ^l Hood	" Lucy	" "
Dan ^l Kimball	" Dudley	" 27,

baptized by y^e Rev^d m^r Holyoake.

Nathan Hood Jun ^r	his Nathan ^l	December 4,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Anna	" 18,
Davis Howlett	" Molly	" "
Cap ^t Tho ^s Cummings	" Israel	" 25,
Joseph Cummings	" Amos	" "
Sam ^l Bradstreet	" Sam ^l	January 8, 1764.
Amos Perkins	" Betty	February 12,
Stephen Hovey	" Mary	March 4,
Peter Chever	" Peter Osgood	" 18,

baptized at Salem.

32 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Joseph Perkins	his Jacob	March	25, 1764.
Stephen Towne Jun ^r and		April	15,
Sarah, wife of Elijah Dwinell,		"	"
both of adult age: also			
John Le-Favour	his Joseph	"	"
Sam ^{ll} Harris Jun ^r	" Sarah	"	"
Tho ^s Perkins	" Dan ^{ll}	"	22,
Tho ^s Cummings Jun ^r	" Jonah	"	"
Sam ^{ll} Cree and		"	29,
Stephen Perkins Jun ^r		"	"
both of adult age			
Tho ^s Perkins Jun ^r	" Israel	May	20,
David Balch Jun ^r	" W ^m	"	27,
John Baker Jun ^r	" John	July	8,
John Peabody	" Mehetabel	August	12,
Daniel Lake	" Nathan	"	19,
Solomon Curtis	" Sam ^{ll}	"	26,
by m ^r Chandler			
Jacob Gould	" Jacob	September	9,
Edmund Towne	" Edmund	"	23,
John Clough	" Oliver	"	"
by m ^r Lesslie (above two)			
I baptized at Newbury-Port			
Benj ^m Moody	his Benj ^m &	"	"
Richerd ———	" Richerd	"	"
Peter Emerson	" Abigail	October	14,
James Chase	" Sarah	"	"
Enoch Herriman	" Sarah	"	"
John Bradley	" Mary	"	"
baptized at Haverhill West Parrish.			
John Balch	his Cornelius	"	21,
" "	" Roger	"	"
" "	" Rebekah	"	"
Benj ^m Bixby	" Rachel	"	"
Isaac Averell	" Joseph	November	4,
Tho ^s Gould Jun ^r	" Anna	"	11,
Pelatiah Cummings	" Sarah	December	2,
Solomon Gould	" Solomon	"	16,
Dan ^{ll} Hood	" Jacob	January	13, 1765.
Joseph Gould	" John	"	27,
Tho ^s Moor	" Tho ^s	"	"
John Jacobs	" Rebekah	"	"
Nathan Hood Jun ^r	" Nathan	March	10,
Tho ^s Howlett	" John	"	17,
Amos Porter	" Lydia	April	7,

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 33

Joseph Perkins	his Anna	May	19, 1765.
Tho ^s Perkins	" Rachel	June	2,
Joseph Perkins	" Anna	"	"
Jacob Kimball	" Anna	"	9,
Francis Towne	" Rebekah	"	"
Nathan ^l Fiske	" Nathan ^l	"	"
Isaac Pearley	" Isaac	"	23,
baptized at Boxford first Parish.			
Thomas Emerson	his Billy	August	4,
Thomas Wildes	" Daniel	"	11,
baptized by m ^r Holyoak.			
John Lampson Jun ^r	his Sarah	"	25,
Stephen Foster Jun ^r	" Matta	"	"
Peter Chever	" Sam ^l and	September	8,
Archelaus Hayward	" Archelaus	"	"
baptized at Salem & m ^r Lesslie baptized at Topsfield			
Dan ^l Averell	his Solomon	"	"
Jacob Andrews	" Nathan ^l	"	15,
baptized at Boxford & m ^r Holyoake baptized at Topsfield			
Dan ^l Kimball	his Joseph	"	"
Stephen Hovey	" Abigail	"	29,
John Bradstreet	" Dudley	October	13,
Joseph Andrews	" Salome	November	3,
Abraham Hobbs Jun ^r	" Elizabeth	"	"
Thomas Cummings	" Joseph	December	22,
Benjamin Bayley	" Dinah	January	26, 1766.
John Le-Favour	" Amos	February	2,
Sam ^l Bradstreet	" Ruth	March	23,
Thomas Foster	" Thomas	"	30,
Thomas Perkins Jun ^r	" Hannah	"	"
Widow Vashti Curtis	her Solomon	April	13,
Sam ^l Towne Jun ^r	his Elizabeth	May	25,
John May	" Abigail	"	"
" "	" Elizabeth	"	"
John May	" John	June	8,
Deacon Dan ^l Gould	" Moses	"	22,
Sam ^l Harris	" Mary	"	"
Jeremiah Towne Jun ^r	" Asa	July	6,
Dan ^l Reddington	" Jacob	August	10,
Tho ^s Perkins	" Lydia	October	12,
also baptized			
Elizabeth Robinson of	adult age	"	"

34 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Tho ^r Gould Jun ^r	his Sarah	November	2, 1766.
Jacob Gould	" Lois	"	9,
Daniel Hood	" Ruth	"	"
Isaac Hobbs	" Sarah	"	16,
Archelaus Rea	" Sarah	"	23,
Sam ^l Perkins	" Elijah	"	30,
Philip Thomas	" Mary	"	"
Philip Thomas	" Francis	January	25, 1767.
Joseph Gould	" Cornelius	February	1,
Pelatiah Cummings	" Isaac	"	"
Daniel Averell	" Joanna	March	15,
Daniel Lake	" Sarah	"	22,
Thomas Howlett	" Mary	"	"
W ^m Hood	" Aaron	April	5,
Nathan ^l Pearley	" Mehetabel	"	12,
baptized at Boxford first Parish.			
Benjamin Marshall	his Mary	May	17,
Jacob Goodhue	" Anna	"	"
" "	" Martha	"	"
Jonathan Cogswell	" Hannah	"	"
" "	" Benjamin	"	"
baptized at Chebacco, in Ipswich.			
Jonathan Towne	his Jedidiah	"	24,
baptized at Boxford first Parish;			
m ^r Hovey baptized at Topsfield			
Nathan ^l Fisk	his Ruth	"	"
John Bacheller Jun ^r	" Lydia	"	31,
Nathan ^l Averell Jun ^r	" Nathan ^l Perkins	June	14,
Thomas Wildes	" Huldah	"	28,
Sam ^l Bradstreet	" Elijah	July	5,
Isaac Averell	" Isaac	August	9,
Joseph Perkins	" Henry	"	23,
baptized by m ^r Holyoke.			
Jacob Kimball	his Lucy	September	6,
Sam ^l Cummings	" Mehetabel	"	"
Francis Towne	" Francis	"	"
Nathan ^l Hood Jun ^r	" Enos	"	13,
Davis Howlett	" Martha	"	"
Aaron Estey Jun ^r	" Joseph	"	"
Abraham Hobbs Jun ^r	" Lydia	"	27,
Sam ^l Perkins	" Dolly	October	18,
Robert Perkins	" Mehetabel	November	29,
Isaac Hobbs	" Elijah	January	24, 1768.
John Batcheller Jun ^r	" John	"	"

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 35

Jacob Hobbs	his Jacob	February	21, 1768.
Richard Potter	" Lydia	March	6,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Huldah	"	27,
Baptized in Salem, in ye Chh y ^t belonged to ye Rev ^d m ^r Huntington lately deceased :			
Benj ^m Peal	his Hannah and	April	17,
Edmund Bickford	" Nathan ^l	"	"
Solomon Gould	" Mehetabel	May	8,
Tho ^s Perkins Jun ^r	" Israel	"	15,
Nathaniel Thomas	" Esther	"	22,
Thomas Cummings	" Thomas	"	29,
Thomas Perkins	" Zacheus	June	19,
John Baker Jun ^r	" Thomas	"	"
John Balch Jun ^r	" Sarah	"	"
Capt W ^m Peabody	" Molly	July	17,
baptized at Middleton.			
Eliezer Lake Jun ^r	" Elizabeth	"	31,
Jacob Towne	" Jacob	"	"
baptized by m ^r Holyoke (above two)			
Joseph Hood	his Sarah	August	14,
John Lampson Jun ^r	" Lois	"	28,
John May	" Elizabeth	"	"
Asa Smith	" Stephen	"	"
Richerd Tenney	" Richerd	September	11,
baptized at Rowley 2 ^d Parrish.			
m ^r Chanler baptized in Topsfield			
John Hood	his Esther	"	"
Thomas Moore	" Josiah	"	18,
Thomas Emerson	" Thomas	"	"
Thomas Howlett	" Alice	October	16,
baptized at Boxford first Parrish.			
Richerd Cree	his Joshua	December	4,
by m ^r Leslie.			
Jacob Gould	" Sarah	"	18,
Philip Thomas	" Dudley	"	25,
Joseph Gould	" Sarah	February	5, 1769.
Thomas Gould Jun ^r	" Thomas	March	5,
Sam ^l Perkins	" Dudley	"	12,
Dan ^l Reddington	" John	"	"
Abraham Hobbs Jun ^r	" Salome	"	"
Pelatiah Cummings	" Abigail	"	19,
Francis Towne	" Sarah	"	26,
John Dwinell of adult age		April	9,

36 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Joseph Perkins	his Jabesh	April	9, 1769.
Samuel Towne Jun ^r	" Allen	May	7,
Isaac Hobbs	" Priscilla	"	28,
Samuel Bradstreet	" Elijah	June	4,
Nathan Hood Jun ^r	" Thomas	} twins	" "
" "	" Amos		
David Balch Jun ^r	" Joshua	"	11,
baptized by m ^r Holyoake.			
Deacon John Patch	his Joseph	"	18,
John Brown	" Martha	"	"
Edward Lampson	" Daniel	"	"
George Adams	" Hannah	"	"
David Thompson	" Jacob	"	"
Ezra Knowlton	" Ezra	"	"
Andrew Dodge	" Sarah	"	"
baptized at Ipswich Hamlett (above seven)			
Benjamin Bayley	his Billy	"	25,
Samuel Cree	" Samuel	"	"
Moses Perkins	" Daniel	July	16,
Aaron Estey Jun ^r	" Hannah	August	6,
baptized by m ^r Lesslie.			
Nathana ^{ll} Fiske	" John	"	20,
Daniel Averell	" Solomon	"	27,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Lydia	September	10,
John Clough	" Nathan ^{ll}	October	1,
" "	" Eunice	"	"
Isaac Averell	" Moses	"	"
Joseph Hood	" Joseph	November	28,
Thomas Moor	" Josiah	December	10,
John Peabody	" Ebenezer	"	17,
John Gould Jun ^r	" Nabby	"	31,
Jacob Kimball	" Lydia	January	28, 1770.
baptized by m ^r Holyoke.			
Thomas Perkins	his Reuben	February	25,
Daniel Hood	" Daniel	"	"
John Batcheller Jun ^r	" Joseph	March	18,
Asa Smith	" Asa	"	25,
Benjamin Kimball	" Abraham	April	8,
Thomas Cummings	" Nathan ^{ll}	June	24,
Henry Bradstreet	" Henry	July	15,
Elisha Perkins	" Elisha	"	22,
Archelaus Rea	" Anna	August	19,
Isaac Hobbs	" Isaac	"	"

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 37

Robert Balch	his Hannah	August	19, 1770.
Stephen Perkins Jun ^r	" Richard	September	9,
Jacob Dwinell	" Eunice	"	23,
baptized at Boxford first Parish.			
Abraham H ^g Jun ^r	his Abraham	October	28,
baptized at Line Brook.			
Mr Lesslie baptized at Topsfield			
Jacob Gould	his Kezia	"	"
John Baker Jun ^r	" Ebenezer	} twins	December 23,
" " "	" Emerson		
Thomas Gould Jun ^r	" Ezra	"	"
Joseph Perkins	" Hannah	March	17, 1771.
Daniel Reddington	" Adam	"	"
Jacob Dwinell Jun ^r	" Israel	"	"
Aquila Wilkins	" Edna	April	7,
Abner Wilkins	" Eunice	"	"
baptized at Middleton (above two)			
John Peabody	his Molly	May	12,
Moses Perkins	" Anna	June	2,
Oliver Towne of adult age		"	9,
Jedidiah Peabody	his Mary	July	21,
baptized at Boxford.			
Thomas Emerson	" John	"	28,
Thomas Perkins Jun ^r	" Peggy	August	11,
Benjamin Bixby Jun ^r	" Sarah	"	25,
Henry Bradstreet	" Nathan ^l	October	6,
Pelataiah Cummings	" Abigail	"	13,
baptized by m ^r Holyoake.			
Joseph Gould	his Abigail	"	27,
Bartholomew Dwinell	" Mical	November	17,
Amos Perkins	" Sarah	"	"
baptized by m ^r Adams (above two)			
Samuel Clarke	" Anna	Decembr	1,
Stephen Towne Jun ^r	" Enos	"	15,
Sam ^l Bradstreet	" John	"	22,
Cornelius Balch	" Nabby	"	"
Philip Thomas	" Eunice	February	2, 1772.
Sam ^l Perkins	" Molly	"	16,
Daniel Hood	" Abner	"	23,
Robert Balch	" Robert	"	"
Joseph Hood	" Dorcas	"	"
Nathan ^l Fiske	" Lydia	March	1,
Asahel Smith	" Jesse	"	8,

38 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Asahel Smith	his Priscilla	March	8, 1772
" "	" Joseph	"	"
Oliver Perkins	" Oliver	"	"
Joseph Andrews	" Ephraim	April	12,
Benj ^m Kimball	" Hannah	"	"
Abraham Hobbs Jun ^r	" Abraham	April	* 19,
Jacob Kimball	" David	"	26, 1771.
Isaac Hobbs	" Priscilla	"	"
Isaac Averell	" Phebe	May	3,
John Curtice	" Sarah	"	10,
baptized at Boxford, 1 st Parrish.			
Isaac Dempsy	his Frances	"	17,
baptized at Danvers.			
Asa Smith	" Molly	"	24,
John Gould Jun ^r	" Becka	"	31,
Molly, wife of Samuel	Page, & also baptized		
their Child, Sam ^l		June	28,
Thomas Moor	" Sarah	July	5,
John Balch Jun ^r	" Mehetabel	} twins	"
" "	" Martha		
Stephen Perkins Jun ^r	" Nabby	"	12,
Dan ^l Clarke	" Elijah	August	28,
y ^e ordinance administered at s ^d Clarke ^s			
House y ^e Child being dangerously ill.			
Solomon Gould	his Martha	September	13,
Joseph Perkins	" Elisha	October	11,
Joseph Browne Jun ^r	" Molly	"	"
Jacob Dwinell Jun ^r	" Anna	"	18,
Oliver Perkins	" Lucy	November	8,
John Batcheller	" Anna	"	15,
Abel Perkins	" Jacob	"	"
Richard Foster	" Dorcas	Decemb ^r	6,
baptized at Boxford first Parrish.			
John Peabody	his Lucy	January	17, 1773.
Thomas Gould	" Mercy	"	"
Henry Bradstreet	" Daniel	February	14,
Isaac Dempsy	" Hannah	March	14,
baptized at Danvers.			
Solomon Dodge Jun ^r	" Amos	April	11,
John Lampson Jun ^r	" Eunice	"	18,
John Dwinell	" Esther	"	25,
Sam ^l Cree	" Moses	} twins	May
" "	" Molly		

BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD. 39

Pelatiah Cummings	his Oliver	June	6, 1772.
Thomas Perkins Jun ^r	“ Thomas	“	13,
by m ^r Lesslie.			
Stephen Towne Jun ^r	“ Molly	“	27,
David Towne Jun ^r	“ Ebenezer	“	“
Moses Perkins	“ Sarah	July	11,
A Negro servant Child	Peter belonging to Lieu ^t		
John Baker Jun ^r		“	“
Isaac Hobbs	his Elisabeth	August	8, 1773.
Joseph Gould	“ Joseph	“	29,
Sam ^{ll} Bradstreet	“ Moses	“	“
Sam ^{ll} Fisk	“ Sam ^{ll}	“	“
Anna Towne of adult age		“	“
Dorcas Towne of adult age		October	10,
Benjamin Kimball	his Mehetabel	“	“
Robert Balch	“ Solomon	“	“
Widow Sarah Fiske	her Sarah	“	24,
Elnathan Hubbard	his Mehetabel	November	7,
Richard Potter	“ Joseph	“	14,
Stephen Perkins Jun ^r	“ Aaron	“	“
Nehemiah Towne	“ Nehemiah	“	“
John Rea	“ Ruth	January	2, 1774.
John Perkins 3 ^d	“ Mehetabel	“	28,
y ^e ordinance administered at s ^d Perkins			
House, y ^e Child being dangerously ill.			
Joseph Hood	his Huldah	March	13,
Nehemiah Towne	“ Ichabod	“	20,
Israel Clark Jun ^r	“ Israel	May	15,
“ “	“ Anna	“	“
“ “	“ Sarah	“	“
Widow Sarah Towne	her Oliver	“	“
John Gould Jun ^r	his Betty	“	“
Tho ^s Cummings	“ Daniel	“	“
Cornelius Balch	“ Richerd	“	“
Asa Smith	“ Hannah	“	22,
baptized by m ^r Nathan ^{ll} Porter.			
Daniel Clarke	his Daniel	“	29,

July the 11th 1774, The Revnd Mr John Emerson De-
parted this Life Aged 67 years, five months, and four
days. He was Ordained November 27th 1728.

40 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Daniel Averill	his Mehetible	August	21, 1774.
Abraham Hobbs Jnr.	his Lydia	"	"
Nath ^l Fisk	" Benjamin	"	"
baptized by M ^r Smith of Middletown.			
Samuel Comings	His Sam ^l	October	16,
By M ^r Stone of Reding.			
Joseph perkins	his Ely	November	6,
by M ^r Swain.			
Jacob Gould	" Huldah	March	5, 1775.
Jacob Kimball	" Samuel	"	"
Dan ^l Porter	" Nat ^l	"	"
Dan ^l Porter	" David	"	"
Isaac Hobbs	" Munson	"	"
Stephen Perkins Jnr	" Prissa	"	"
Thomas Gould	" Phebe	"	"
Baptized by m ^r Daniel Emerson of Hollis.			
Tho ^s Mower	his Olive		
Stephen Towne Jnr.	" Joseph		
John Batchellor	" Jacob		
Henry Bradstreet	" Bille		
Robert Balch	" Sarah		
Solomon Doge	" Solomon		
Moses Perkins, son of Oliver Perkins was			
Baptised		[Jan ^y	14, 1776. ?]
Joseph Emerson, son of Thomas Emerson was			
Baptised		Jan ^y	14, 1776.
Betty Cummings, Daughter of Palatiah Cum-			
mings was Baptised		"	"
Peggy Furner, Daughter of M ^r ——— Furner			
was Baptised		"	"
Sarah Kimball, Daughter of Benj ^m Kimball was			
Baptised		"	"
Joseph Towne	his Lydia	[March	3, 1776.]
Jacob Dwinell Jun ^r	" Mehetable	[March	3, 1776.]
Baptised By M ^r Manassah Cuttlar of Ipswich			
Hamblet.			
John Dwinell	his John	March	3, 1776.
David Towne Jun ^r	" Sarah	"	"
John Perkins 3 ^d	" Mehetable	"	"
By M ^r Cuttlar.			
Asa Smith	" Manassah	May	5,
By M ^r Frisbe of Ipswich.			
Stephen Foster jun ^r	his Nabby	July	7,
Samuel Fisk	" Ezra	"	"
By M ^r Nathaniel Porter.			

Thomas Perkins, jun ^r	his Samuel	September 15, 1776.
John Balch	" John	" "
Samuel Cree	" Joseph	" "
By M ^r George Laslee of Lime Brook.		
Daniel Clark	his Daniel	December 1,
I [s]aac Hobbs	" Samiel	" "
By M ^r Levi Frisbe of Ipswich.		
Thomas Cummings	his John Bordman	May 4 th , 1777.
John Dwinel	" Mahetabell	" "
Daniel Porter	" Sarah	" "
By the Rev nd M ^r Dane of Ipswich.		
Nathaniel Fiske	his Moses	August 24,
Joseph Hood	" Bettey	" "
By the rev ^d M ^r Lesslie.		
Jacob Kimball	his Benjamin	February 9, 1778.
by the rev nd M ^r Spring of Newbury.		
Andrew, son of Stephen Towne, Jun ^r		April 12,
Ruth, Phebe, and William		" "
Children of William Estie.		
Azariah, son of Nathaniel Averel Jun ^r		" "
Jessee, Son of John Perkins of Boxford		" "
Betty Daughter of Palatiah Cummings		" "
Hannah Daughter of Abraham Hobbs Jun ^r		" "
Mary Daughter of David Towne J ^r		" "
Susanna Daughter of Isaac Hobbs		" "
William Son of Oliver Perkins		" "
Lucy Davgter of Daniel Hood		" "
All Baptized in one day by the		
rev nd m ^r Holyoke of Boxford.		
Ebenezer Peabody, Son of John Peabody		November 8 th
Baptized by M ^r Manassa Cutler of Ipswich		
Hamblet.		
Daniel Clarke	his Elijah	April 25 th , 1779.
Samuel Perkins	" Ezra	" "
John Dwinel	" Esther	" "
Benjamin Hobbs	" Daniel	" "
Baptized by the Rev nd M ^r Wadsworth of		
Danverse.		
Philip Thomas	his Philip	July 27 th
Ebenezer Goodhue	" Ebenezer	" "
Baptized by y ^e Rev nd M ^r Wadsworth of		
Danvers.		
Oliver Perkins	his Lois	July 4 th

42 BAPTISMAL RECORDS OF THE CHURCH IN TOPSFIELD.

Eliezer Lake Jun ^r	his Eliezer	July	4 th 1779.
By the Rev ^d M ^r Dana of Ipswich.			
John Batcheller	his Jacob	August	24 th
by the Rev nd M ^r Lesslie of Lyne Brook Parrish in Ipswich.			
Isaac Hobbs	his Humphry	September	5 th
David Hobbs	" Lucy	"	"
By y ^e Rev nd M ^r Adams of Haverhill.			
William Estie	his Debbe	November	7 th
by the Rev nd M ^r Cutler of Ipswich Hamblet.			

Rev. Daniel Breck, the fifth pastor of the Church in Topsfield, was ordained to the Charge, the 17th of November, 1779.

NOTE. This includes all the baptisms to the time of the ordination of Rev. Mr. Breck.—*Editor.*







